THE CASE

OF THE

Japaners of England.

THE Curious and Ingenious Art and Myſtery of Japaning, has been ſo much Improv'd in *England* of late years, and has withall been ſo Beneficial to the Nation that thoſe who have the moſt Knowledge thereof, humbly conceive it (with Submiſſion) very fit and worthy to be Supported and Encourag'd.

For it has afforded an honeſt Lively-hood, to ſeveral Hundreds of Families, of Handy-crafts Men; as *Cabinet-makers*, *Turners*, *Gold-beaters* and *Copper-ſmiths*; beſides its Benefit and Advantage to *Drug-iſts*, *Diſtillers* and *Colour-men*: And has given Employment to many poor Laborious Men, who (with their Families) wou'd otherwiſe have been very Burthenſome and Chargeable to their reſpective Pariſhes.

And many of the *Artificers*, in the ſaid *Art* and *Myſtery*, have brought it to ſo great Perfection, as to Exceed all manner of *Indian Lacquer*, and to Equal the right Japan it ſelf, by enduring the *Fire* in the Boyling of *Liquors*.

Alſo it will if Encourag'd, vaſtly Improve both the *Wood*, and *Iron* Trades for *Ciſterns*, *Mounteths*, *Punch-Bowls*, *Tea Tables*, and ſeveral ſorts of *Iron-Ware*; which wou'd be Uſeleſs, if not Improv'd by our *Engliſh Lacquer*.

But the *Merchants* ſending over our *Engliſh Patterns*, and *Models* to *India*, and bringing in ſuch vaſt Quantities of *Indian Laquer'd Wares*; (eſpecially within the laſt two years,) great numbers of Families are by that means reduced to Miſerable Poverty.

And the large quantities of Japan'd Goods expected ſhortly to be brought from the *Indies*, will not only tend to the Ruine of the Japan-Trade here in *England*, but alſo Obſtruct the Tranſportation of our *Engliſh Lacquer* to all *Europe*, which is a Conſiderable Advancement to His Majeſties Cuſtomes, whereas the *Indian Lacquer* being Exported from hence, draws back the Cuſtom.

So that its Humbly Conceiv'd, that unleſs by the High and Honourable Court of Parliament, the Importation of *Indian Lacquer'd* and Japan Wares ſhall be Prohibited or Reſtrain'd, as they in their great Wiſdom ſhall think fit. This Uſeful Trade and Manufacture of *Engliſh* Japan-Work cannot be Preſerv'd from Deſtruction, which if it ſhould happen, then thoſe many Ingenious and Induſtrious (but poor and indigent Perſons,) who have Improv'd the Art to ſo great a degree, (and together with their Families depend upon it,) will be both utterly Diſcourag'd and Expos'd to inevitable Ruine,

THE

Japaners
CASE.

MVSEVM
BRITAN
NICVM

THE

CASE

OF THE

JOYNERS Company,

AGAINST

The Importation of Manufactured CABINET-WORK *from the* EAST-INDIES.

WHEREAS great Numbers of Artificers, Members of the ſaid Company, have been bred up in the ſaid Art or Myſtery of making Cabinets, Scrutores, Tables, Cheſts, and all other ſorts of CABINET-WORK in *England*, in which of late Years they have arrived to ſo great a Perfection, as exceeds all *Europe*.

BUT ſeveral Merchants, and others, Trading to the *Eaſt-Indies*, and to ſeveral Ports and Places thereabouts, have procured to be made in *London*, of late Years, and ſent over to the *Eaſt-Indies*, Patterns and Models of all ſorts of Cabinet Goods; and have Yearly return'd from thence ſuch great Quantities of Cabinet-Wares, Manufactured there, after the *Engliſh* Faſhion, by our Models, that the ſaid Trade in *England* is in great Danger of being utterly Ruined, being ingroſs'd by the ſaid Merchants, and others, that Trade to and from thoſe Parts, to ſo great a Degree, that they not only ſupply theſe Kingdoms with ſuch Commodities, ſo Imported, but alſo ſpoil the EXPORTATION of the ſaid *Joyners* and *Cabinet-Makers* Work to Foreign Parts, ſo that their Journey-men and Apprentices, in a manner, will be uſeleſs; which, if not timely prevented, will Reduce the ſaid *Joyners*, *Cabinet-Makers*, and Thouſands of other Poor Artificers depending on them, as the *Carvers*, *Turners*, *Copper-Smiths*, *Glew-makers*, *Sawyers*, &c. to a deplorable Condition, who muſt periſh for want of Work, or be maintain'd by their ſeveral Pariſhes.

AND in lieu of abundance of Foreign Commodities, which the ſaid *Joyners* and *Cabinet-Makers* are obliged to uſe in their Trade, the *Engliſh* Woollen Manufactures were Exported, ſo that the Kingdom in general were Gainers thereby.

AND the Youth of this Nation, that now are, and daily come to Handycraft Trades, will be under the like Misfortune, if, when their Trades are brought to Perfection, their Models are carried to *India*, and Manufactured there.

THE following Goods, Manufactured in *India*, have been Imported within theſe Four Years, *viz.* Two Hundred forty four Cabinets, Six Thouſand five hundred eighty two Tea-Tables, Four hundred twenty eight Cheſts, Seventy Trunks, Fifty two Screens, Five hundred eighty nine Looking-Glaſs Frames, Six hundred fifty five Tops for Stands, Eight hundred eighteen Lacquer'd Boards, Five hundred ninety ſeven Sconces, and Four thouſand one hundred twenty Dreſſing, Comb, and Powder Boxes.

Beſides ſeveral Sales lately made, in which were great Quantities of the ſaid CABINET-WORK; as alſo in other Sales daily expected.

Wherefore 'tis hoped the Wiſdom of this Honourable Houſe will Interpoſe for the Relief of theſe poor Artificers, &c.

THE CASE OF THE JOYNERS AND Cabinet-Makers.

The CASE *of* Great Britain's *Manufacturers of* Iron *and* Steel, *for Her* MAJESTY'S *Plantations and Colonies*, &c.

IN the first and second Years of the late K. *William* and Q. *Mary*, there was an Impost laid upon unwrought foreign Iron and Steel imported: Whereupon the Manufacturers of Iron and Steel in *England* complain'd thereof, by reason it was a Prejudice to them, and an Advantage to the foreign Manufacturers; and for Remedy the Parliament then encreased the Duty upon the Importation of the Manufactured Iron and Steel.

BUT to evade this Duty, some selfish Merchants shipp'd great Quantities of Manufactured Iron and Steel in *Holland*, brought the same to some *Westward Port* in *Great Britain*, there Enter'd and Reshipp'd it for *New England*, and other of their then Majesty's Dominions in *America*, and receiv'd the Custom again by a Drawback; and upon this Occasion,

IN the second and third Year of Her present Majesty Q. *ANNE*, in an ACT for the granting Her Majesty an additional Subsidy, there was incerted the following Clause, *viz.*

And for the Encouragement of the Iron Manufacture of this Kingdom, Be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that from and after the eighth day of March, **One thousand seven hundred and three, there shall not be allowed any Drawback or Repayment of Customs or Duties charged in this, or any former Act, upon any Wares made of wrought Iron or Steel in foreign Parts, which shall be Imported into this Kingdom, and afterwards Exported to any of Her Majesty's Plantations in** America, **any Clause in this, or any former Act to the contrary notwithstanding.**

TO evade which Clause, great Quantities of Iron and Steel unwrought and made into near *Scantlings*, are still shipp'd off from *Holland* to *England*, and the Exporter from thence to the Plantations draws back the Custom, by which means there are very great Quantities of Iron and Steel manufactured in *America*, especially in *New England*, to the great Prejudice of *Great Britain*'s Traders in the said Manufactures, as appears, because

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
I. THE unwrought Iron exported to the Plantations, draweth back *per* Ton at least 2*l.* 7*s.* (and the Steel above three times much).	02	07	00
II. THERE is wasted 800 of Iron to make 1 Ton of Manufactured, which also draweth back 18*s.* 9*d.* so that the Exporter receives a Drawback for what is wasted in Manufacturing abroad.	00	18	09
III. THE Freight of Iron and Steel unwrought by reason of its doing the Office of Ballast, doth not pay so much as the Manufactured, by *per* Ton	01	00	00
IV. WHEN Exported in the Manufactury there is a great Charge in Package, above double the Insurance and Commission, which is to the Advantage of the Manufacturers in *New England*, and other Her Majesty's Dominions in *America*, and to the Prejudice of the Manufacturers in *Great Britain*, *per* Ton above	01	10	00
V. WHEN the *Great Britain* Merchants Ship Iron Ware, seldom half of it is (when arrived) in demand; and it is common to sell such Goods 10 *l. per* Ton, and cheaper, than such Goods as happen to be wanting, which is wholly in favour of the *American* Manufacturers, who make only what is most wanted; and if a Duty be laid on the Export of *Great Britains* Manufactured Iron and Steel, they will have a further Encouragement,	10	00	00
THERE being no Drawback on the Manufactured Iron and Steel exported, That the Manufactured in *New England*, and other Her Majesty's Dominions in *America* has the Advantage of what is Manufactured here by *per* Ton,	15	15	09

IN *New England* they have Coals in their Neighbourhood cheaper than the Smiths in *London*, and by reason of the great Plenty of Provisions and Increase of People, they at present have more done in *New England* for an *English* Crown than we in *London*; Being incourag'd by these Advantages, they have made most of their Iron and Steeled Ware for these Two Years past, and much incommoded the *Great Britain* Manufacturers, by selling their Iron and Steeled Ware to their Neighbouring Collonies.

It is therefore humbly hoped, That there may be a Stop to the Drawback of Customs on Foreign unwrought Iron *and* Steel, *as there is upon the Manufactured.*

THE CASE OF Great Britain's *Manufactures of* Iron *and* Steel, *for Her* MAJESTY'S *Plantations and Colonies*, &c.

REASONS

Hnmbly offered for the Encouragement of making Iron and Copper, in His Majeſty's Plantations of AMERICA.

THE Neceſſity the Preſent Parliament was under, to prohibit Trade with *Swedeland*, has raiſed Iron near 50 *per Cent.* And if it ſhould be opened again, they are preparing a new Impoſition to be laid on it of near 25 *per Cent.* which we muſt pay, provided no other Supply can be found out.

THE *Engliſh* Plantations in *America* abound with Wood, Iron and Copper Oar, and other Materials, for making Iron and Copper: And if ſuitable Encouragement was given, we might be ſupply'd with great Quantities from thence.

THIS would engage the People in thoſe Colonies to employ themſelves in making *Iron* and *Copper*, and enable them to make Returns for purchaſing *Woollen* Manufactures, and other Productions of *England* to ſupply their Wants, and prevent their falling on our Manufactures, which their Neceſſities (if not otherwiſe provided for) will force them to.

SINCE we can be ſo well ſupply'd by our own Subjects, who will be paid for their *Iron* and *Copper* by the Manufactures of *England*, we ſhall prevent the ill Treatment we have received from *Sweden*, encourage our own Navigation, keep our Money at Home, and ſave the great Expence of fitting out a Royal Navy to Protect our Trade.

WE ſhould then have a Market of our own, to ſupply our ſelves from, in Caſe any Rupture happens between us and thoſe Countries from whence we have hitherto been ſupply'd.

WE make in *England* ſcarce one Third Part of the Iron that is here manufactur'd. So that our Iron Manufacture depending on Materials from Foreigners, muſt be cramped when they pleaſe; which will be prevented by having it made in our own Colonies.

THE Iron and Copper that may be made in our Plantations, will be as good as the beſt from *Sweden*, as by ſome Samples now made doth appear. And the Iron would in all Probability (if need require it) make as good Steel as any of that doth: As in a few Weeks may be more fully proved. And is the fitteſt for Gun-Barrels and bears the beſt Proof.

WE can have from thence Iron and Copper Bars made, as proper for the *Guinea* Trade as any from *Sweden*; both which are grown very ſcarce, and will be hereafter ſo, as oft as the King of *Sweden* pleaſes, if not prevented.

WE ſhall then have one Market more than we have hitherto had to ſupply our ſelves from: By that means it will be more Plentiful, and Goods made thereof Cheaper, which will much Increaſe the Sales of our *Iron* and *Braſs* Manufactures.

AS the Manufacture in the *Iron* and *Braſs* Yearly increaſes, ſo ought the Quantities of *Iron* and *Braſs* to increaſe proportionably, elſe the Tradeſmen can't ſupply their Demands; nor Employ be found for the increaſing Number of Workmen.

SUCH conſiderable Sums muſt be laid out to erect *Iron* and *Copper* Works, that when once built, will engage the Proprietors to proceed on making *Iron* and *Copper*; which is a Security to the Government, that the Encouragement given will anſwer the End propoſed.

REASONS

Humbly offer'd for the Encouragement of making *Iron* and *Copper*, in His MAJESTY'S Plantations of *America*.

816. m. 5

REASONS

Humbly Offer'd againſt Encouraging the Making of IRON *in* AMERICA.

IT will appear by the Cuſtom-Houſe Books, that there hath not been for many Years 100 Ounces of Silver exported to *Sweden*; and that the Exportation of the Woollen Manufactures to *Sweden* increaſed in the three Years from *Chriſtmas* 1711 to *Chriſtmas* 1714, more than in the three Years from *Chriſtmas* 1708 to *Chriſtmas* 1711,

In Bays,	1653 Pieces
Perpet and Serges	3890
Kerſies	5018
Stuff	82415
Stockings	2772 Dozen.

The *Swedes* are ſo far from laying a new Duty of Five and Twenty *per Cent.* that his *Swediſh* Majeſty hath lately publiſhed a Placart, That any Ships that bring in Merchandize, ſhall have Iron, or other Merchandize, for it; and that all the Corn and other Proviſions imported, ſhall pay no Duty to *Sweden*: And by the Prohibition to Trade there, 'tis obvious to all the World, the *Dutch* are great Gainers, and We great Sufferers in our Manufactories and Foreign Trades.

Should a Bounty be allow'd for making Iron, 'twould certainly be a Means to make it bad for the Sake thereof, (as they have done in the Pitch and Tar) and would be very deſtructive to our Manufacture here, which is now in great Perfection; and it would be hard to make *Ireland* pay a Duty for what Iron they make there, and import hither, who contribute ſo largely to the Expence of *England*.

It was never thought the Intereſt of *England* to encourage the Colonies to Manufacture any Thing that was Manufactured in *England*; and the Iron Manufacture is the ſecond in the Kingdom, which maintains at leaſt 200,000 People; and, if loſt, thoſe People muſt be an heavy Burthen to their Pariſhes, particularly in the Counties of *Worceſter*, *Stafford*, *Warwick*, *Salop*, *Lancaſter*, *York*, great Part of *Wales*, and other Places, and conſiderably leſſen the Value of the Land and Rents in thoſe Counties.

Should Encouragement be given to the Colonies, eſpecially *Virginia*, 'twould not encourage our Navigation; for there's no Ship that comes from thence, but will bring a conſiderable Quantity of Iron, and her full Quantity of Tobacco alſo; and therefore not employ many more Ships in the *Virginia* Trade. And the Making of Iron in any other Parts of *America*, will occaſion a larger Fleet to convoy the Ships from thence than from *Sweden*, ſhould we have a War with any Nation whatever.

There is no Iron yet known proper for Steel made here, but the beſt *Swediſh*; and the Steel Manufacture is very advantageous to *England*, at leaſt Fifty *per Cent.* in Manufacturing.

There are Collieries in *New-England*, and the Smiths there buy Coals as cheap as a Smith in *London*; and by that and other Advantages, the People of *New-England* did Manufacture conſiderably; which being laid before the Honourable the Houſe of Commons, they took off the Drawback from unmanufactured Iron and Steel Exported to *America* in the Year 1711, being the Ninth of Queen *Anne*.

The Encouraging the Making of Iron in *America*, will put them upon Manufacturing, and they will ſupply themſelves firſt, and all the Colonies; ſo that the Manufacturers here muſt ſtarve. *America* cannot ſupply *England* with any Iron for many Years; and the Want of Iron is already ſufficiently known to all Traders, Handicrafts, Husbandmen, Shipwrights, Merchants, and others.

The *Americans* have the Advantage of 5 *l. per* Tun and upwards, in Making of Iron in their Wood and Oar, more than the *Engliſh* have; which will over and above pay the great Wages in *America*, and the Freight to *England*.

When there was an open Trade with *Sweden*, the *Swediſh* Iron Imported into *England* paid annually 40,000 *l.* Cuſtom, which will be ſo much Loſs to the Revenue, if the *Americans* Import Iron free, and much more if a Bounty be given them, could they ſupply us.

REASONS
Humbly Offered against Encouraging the making of Iron *in* AMERICA.

REASONS

Humbly offered againſt the Encouragement of making IRON *in his Majeſty's Plantations.*

IT may be made appear, That *England* exports yearly of the Manufactures and Produce of *England* —— £. 450,000
And imports of the Produce of *Sweden* —— —— —— 248,000

So that the Ballance of Trade is in the Favour of *England* —— 202,000

The *Swedes* are ſo far from laying a new Duty of Five and Twenty *per Cent.* that his *Swediſh* Majeſty hath lately publiſhed a Placart, That any Ships that bring in Merchandize, ſhall have Iron, or other Merchandize, for it; and that all the Corn and other Proviſions imported, ſhall pay no Duty to *Sweden*: And by the Prohibition to Trade there, 'tis obvious to all the World, the *Dutch* are great Gainers, and We great Sufferers in our Manufactory and our Foreign Trade.

Should a Bounty be allow'd for making Iron, 'twould certainly be a Means to make it bad for the Sake thereof, (as they have done in the Pitch and Tar) and would be very deſtructive to our Manufacture here, which is now in great Perfection; and it would be hard for to make *Ireland* pay a Duty for what Iron they make there, and import hither, who contribute ſo largely to the Expence of *England*,

It was never thought that the Intereſt of *England* was to encourage the Colonies to Manufacture any Thing that was Manufactured in *England*; and the Iron Manufacture is the ſecond in the Kingdom, which maintains at leaſt 200,000 People; and, if loſt, thoſe People muſt fall an heavy Burthen to their Pariſhes to maintain, particularly in the Counties of *Worceſter*, *Stafford*, *Warwick*, *Salop*, *Lancaſter*, *York*, great Part of *Wales*, and other Counties, and conſiderably leſſen the Value of the Land and Rents in thoſe Places.

Should Encouragement be given to the Colonies to make and Manufacture Iron, there would be more Occaſion for a larger Fleet to convoy them from thence than from *Sweden*, if we ſhould be at War with any Nation whatever.

There is no Iron yet known that is proper for Steel made here but *Swediſh*, the beſt whereof is call'd *Orgroon*; and the Steel Manufacture is very advantageous to *England*, at leaſt Fifty *per Cent.* in Manufacturing.

They have a Colony in *New-England*, and the Smiths there buy Coals as cheap as a Smith in *London*; and by that and other Advantages, the People of *New-England* did Manufacture conſiderably; which being laid before the Honourable the Houſe of Commons, they took off the Drawback from Manufactured Iron and Steel Exported to *America* in the Year 1711, being the Ninth of Queen *Anne*.

The Encouraging the Making of Iron in *America*, will put them upon Manufacturing, and will ſupply themſelves firſt; and the Manufacturers here ſtarve. *America* cannot ſupply *England* with any Iron for many Years; and the Want of Iron is already ſufficiently known to all Traders, Handicrafts, Husbandmen, *&c.*

REASONS
Humbly Offered againſt the Encouragement of making Iron *in his Majeſty's Plantations.*

816. m. 13. 7

A LETTER FROM A MERCHANT, *to a* MEMBER *in* Parliament, *concerning the Importation of* Swediſh *Iron from* Holland.

SIR,

I Received Yours, and, purſuant to your earneſt Requeſt, ſend you my Thoughts concerning bringing *Swediſh* Iron from *Holland:* If my Thoughts are not ſo well digeſted as you expect, I beg you will excuſe me, and impute it to that very ſhort Time you allow me.

Firſt then, I own it will ſupply the Want of Iron in this Nation; but at a very extravagant Price.

Secondly, It is Robbing the poor Induſtrious Manufacturers and Conſumers of Iron, in this Kingdom, and the Plantations; and giving a large Sum of Money (ſo wreſted from them) to the *Dutch.*

Thirdly, 'Tis a great Diſcouragement to Trade.

Laſtly, It will help to compleat our Ruin, by Draining us of the little Silver we have left among us.

As to the Firſt, It will ſupply us; but at an extravagant Rate; *Swediſh* Iron, ſince the Allowance to bring it from *Holland* into *England*, is Riſen to 19 *l. per* Ton: The Duty out from *Holland* and Freight 1 *l.* 10 *s. per* Ton: The Duty into *England* 2 *l.* 2 *s.* 6 *d.* So that the whole Coſt of the Merchant is 22 *l.* 12 *s.* 6 *d.* Conſidering the Merchant's Riſque, Intereſt of his Money, his Profit, and what the *Ironmongers* muſt get, that Retail it to the poor Working-Smith, he is not like to have it at a cheaper Rate than it is at preſent; which is 28 *l. per* Ton the Beſt; and 26 *l. per* Ton the Ordinary.

Secondly, It is Robbing our Induſtrious Mechanicks, to give to the *Dutch:* The Prohibition being to continue until the End of the Firſt Seſſions, after the 25th of next *March*, it is likely to laſt at leaſt a whole Year. We commonly take 20000 Tons of Iron *per Annum* from *Sweden*; and ſhall of Courſe draw as much from *Holland: Swediſh* Iron before Notice given to the *Dutch*, that Liberty would be given to bring it in to *England*, (for, by the bye, they had Notice before it was Publick here) was Sold in *Holland* for 14 *l. per* Ton; none can ſuppoſe, but that the *Dutch* got at leaſt 1 *l.* 10 *s. per* Ton. I am well informed, *Swediſh* Iron is now Riſen in *Holland* to 19 *l. per* Ton: So that they get 5 *l.* 10 *s. per* Ton; which, in the foreſaid Quantity, is One Hundred and Ten Thouſand Pounds. This Sum is wreſted from the Manufacturers and Conſumers of Iron, in His MAJESTY's Dominions, and given to our Rivals in Trade, the *Dutch.*

Quære; When will they give us as much?

Thirdly, 'Tis a great Diſcouragement to Trade; For the *Dutch* become both our Factors and Carriers, whilſt our own Ships are un-imploy'd: And ſearch but the Liſt of a ſingle Broker, and you may find Sixty or Seventy Sail of good Ships to be Sold, for want of Buſineſs.

Laſtly, It will Eaſe us of the little Silver Coin we have left. One main Reaſon of our Coin going out of the Nation, is, The Goods we ſend to *Holland*, do not near Pay for what we bring from thence, and the large Intereſt we pay them for what they have in our Funds: So that we are forced to Pay them the Ballance in Specie, which Cauſes the Exchange to be very much to our Diſadvantage; ſo that although we loſe Two-pence in every Half-Crown, and Four-pence in every Crown we carry to *Holland*; yet by carrying Silver over to *Holland*, even at this Diſadvantage, we get more for 100 *l.* Silver, than we can for a good Bill of Exchange for the ſaid Sum.

I think then 'tis very plain, That if inſtead of ſending Fiſh, Salt, Corn and Woollen Goods to *Sweden*, for ſo large a Quantity of Iron, we muſt now ſend ready Money to *Holland* at ſo extravagant a Price; it muſt neceſſarily make the Exchange more to our Diſadvantage, and ſo of Courſe give a greater Encouragement to thoſe that venture to carry out our Coin.

I am, *&c.*

A LETTER *from a* MERCHANT, *to a* MEMBER *in* Parliament, *concerning the Importation of* Swediſh *Iron from* Holland.

THE CASE OF THE *Manufacturers of Iron and Steel for Exportation.*

I. THAT by reaſon of the Cheapneſs of all Foreign Iron Imported before the great Duty was laid, and the divers kinds of Iron made in *England*, which accomodated the Artificers with Iron fit for every Service; and *Great Britain* having Coals to anſwer every Performance; and the Smiths in *Great Britain* being the moſt Dextrous in all *Europe*, for Manufacturing of moſt ſorts of Iron and Steel Ware; and 'till the great Duty was laid upon Foreign Iron Imported, and Coals Water-born, and the ſcarcity and dearneſs of Wood to make *Engliſh* Iron, this Manufactury, from the end of the Civil Wars, 'till the ſaid new Duties were laid, was wonderfully encreas'd, to the great enriching this Nation; and was from a Trifle, brought to be the moſt Conſiderable Manufactury in this Kingdom, except the Woollen.

II. That ſince the Duty upon Wrought Iron and Steel hath been diſcontinu'd, it hath made the Exporting ſo eaſy, eſpecially to all ſmall Exporters, who have been very helpful in the extenſive part of the Trade, particularly in ſupplying of Foreign Nations.

III. That if the Subſidy upon the Exports ſhould be continued, it is impoſſible the *Engliſh* Manufacturers of Groſs Iron-Work, will be able to Trade, where the *Dutch* and *Hamburghers* are permitted to Trade.

IV. The whole Duty of this will not produce 800 *l. per Annum.* When if the *Engliſh* Manufacturers were upon the ſame Foot with *Holland*, the *Hamburghers* and other Places, where only ſmall Duties are laid; *Great Britain* may reap by the Manufactury much above 100,000 *l. per Annum.* That ſince the Neceſſity for carrying on the War, the great Duties upon Coals and Iron are charg'd for ſo long a time to come,

It is therefore humbly Pray'd, That Wrought Iron and Steel ſhould be Exported free, as it is at preſent.

THE CASE OF THE *Manufacturers of Iron and Steel for Exportation.*

816. m. 13. 9

AN ABSTRACT OF THE CHARTER,

K England Granted by their late MAJESTIES,

King WILLIAM *and* Queen MARY,

In the Fifth Year of their REIGN, to the

GOVERNOR and COMPANY for making Iron with Pit Coal.

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TALBOT CLERK and *Thomas Addiſon*, Eſqrs. *George Moore* and *Henry Corbett*, of *London*, Merchants; in behalf of themſelves and others concerned with them, ſet forth, That they with great Study, Care and Expence, had brought to Practice the Uſe of Pit Coal to Melt, or Smelt down all ſorts of Iron Oar, Iron Stones, Slaggs-Cinders and broken caſt or hammered Iron, and to make the ſame into good Merchantable Barr Iron and other Iron, and alſo into Guns, Bullets and other Utenſils, fit for all Uſes, which being of great Uſe and Advantage to this KINGDOM in General, Petitioned to be Incorporated. And accordingly Sir *John Lowther*, of *Lowther*, Bart. *Thomas Addiſon*, *Talbot Clerk*, *Thomas Philips* and *William Ingram*, Eſqrs. *Thomas Renda*, *Gabriel Wayne*, Gentlemen; *George Moore*, *Richard Adams* and *Henry Corbett*, of *London*, Merchants, and others were Incorporated, and to be called one BODY, Corporate and Politick, by the name of *The* GOVERNOR *and* COMPANY *for making* IRON *with* PIT COAL; for ever.

Liberty to purchaſe Lands, Goods and Chattels, and to Give, Grant and Alienate the ſame — (without Reſtriction.)

Plead, and to be impleaded.

To have a common Seal and to alter at Pleaſure.

Sir *John Lowther* the firſt GOVERNOR; *Thomas Addiſon*, Eſq. the firſt DEPUTY-GOVERNOR; *Talbot Clerke*, *Thomas Philips*, *William Ingram*, *Thomas Renda*, *Gabriel Wayne*, *George Moore*, *Richard Adams* and *Henry Corbett*, the firſt eight ASSISTANTS, to continue until the 29th of *September* following, and until others are choſen.

To hold Courts in *London* and *Weſtminſter*.

GOVERNOR, DEPUTY-GOVERNOR, with five ASSISTANTS to be called a Committee.

To chooſe Officers, and

To make By-Laws, Rules and Orders; and the ſame to alter and anull.

Power to ſet Fines and Penalties on Offenders, and to mitigate the ſame; and Power to appoint Sub-Committees.

Election of GOVERNOR, DEPUTY-GOVERNOR, and eight ASSISTANTS, on the 29th of *September*, or within fourteen Days after. By Plurality of Votes, the GOVERNORS and ASSISTANTS to continue until the 29th of *September* following, and until others are choſen.

Members poſſeſs'd of five Shares to have a Vote, and no Member more than four Votes.

GOVERNOR, or DEPUTY-GOVERNOR, to have the caſting Vote.

Oaths of Supremacy, &c. to be taken by the Members.

Power to diſplace GOVERNORS or ASSISTANTS, and liberty to reſign, and others to be choſen giving timely notice.

Sir *John Lowther* to take the Oaths before Lord Chief Juſtice or Lord-Mayor of the City of *London*, for the Time being, and the GOVERNOR to adminiſter the Oaths to others.

Judges, &c. to be Aiding and Aſſiſting to the ſaid GOVERNOR and COMPANY.

Power to raiſe a JOINT STOCK and the ſame to increaſe and diminiſh.

Reſervation to repeal the Charter, if found repugnant to the general and publick Good of the Kingdom, and if ſo declared by ſix Lords of the Council.

Letters Patents and the Enrollment thereof, to be good and firm.

agreed to raise £10500 at easy payms to make ye Iron all charges included at
£8 T.n or under & to sell ye same at £13. p T.n or upwards which must produce
a Cle Dividends because of ye quantity that may be delivered quarterly
aforesaid

AN
ABSTRACT
OF THE
CHARTER

This is to give Notice,

816. m. 13
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To all Lovers of Art and Ingenuity,

K

THAT the moſt famous Iron Operators who have been practiſing for above Two Years at *Friſington* near *Whitehaven* in *Cumberland*, having met with none but Infidels in that barren Part of the Kingdom, are lately come to *London*, and are now getting ready to convince the World of their great and wonderful Skill in making Iron with Ore and Pit Coal. They intend to begin at their Great Booth near *Chelſea* on *Wedneſday* the 10th of *March*, where all Perſons that are diſpos'd to Subſcribe towards raiſing a Million of Money, to enable theſe Great Projectors to make Iron ſufficient to ſupply the whole Nation, without the uſe of Wood or Charcoal, will be entertain'd with the following ſurpriſing Performances.

I. They may ſee the beſt of Pig and Sow Iron made with Ore and Pit Coal only, according to the Patent granted Mr. *Wood* for that Purpoſe, by his late Majeſty, about four Years ſince.

II. They may ſee the beſt of Raw Iron, or Iron prepar'd with Ore and Pit Coal only, according to the Patent granted Mr. *Wood* by his preſent Majeſty.

III. They may likewiſe ſee made from Ore and Pit Coal only, the beſt tough maleable Bar Iron, of the ſame Kind as that of which Mr. *Wood* contracted about three Years ago to make and deliver Ten thouſand Tons *per Annum* to the Mines Royal Company, at 11 *l.* and 12 *l.* a Ton; and for which, the Company paid him above 30,000 *l.* two Years ſince in Part of his Contract, and he has already deliver'd them thereupon One Horſe-ſhoe made of the ſaid Iron.

IV. They may alſo ſee Mr. *Wood*'s excellent Method of pulverizing or reducing the hardeſt Iron Ore into Powder, which being mix'd in his Air Furnaces with pulveriz'd Coal, is in the Space of an Hour and half, converted into ſuch a Subſtance, as is capable of being hammer'd into a Bar that looks like Iron. *Note*, this Iron is very brittle, and when broke, is black.

V. They may ſee another Sort of Iron made by ſome expert Scholars of the famous Mr. *Fawkes*, who have attained ſuch a dextrous Way of putting in Filings and Scraps of Iron among the pulveriz'd Ore and Coal as is not to be diſcern'd by the niceſt Obſerver. This Iron is not ſo brittle as the other, and has a different Grain and Colour when broke.

If any Perſon is deſirous of having a fuller Account of the great Succeſs with which this Invention has been carried on for ſeveral Years laſt paſt, they may have it from the Companies of Mines Royal, Mineral, and Battery Works, *London*.

Subſcriptions for raiſing a Million of Money for carrying on this Great Deſign of ſupplying the whole Nation with Pit-Coal Iron, are taken in only at the Sign of the *Chelſea College* near *Charing Croſs*, and at the *Quondam Banker's Head* near *Birchin Lane*, in *Lombard Street*.

Note, Forty *per Cent.* ſhall be allow'd for prompt Payment, where the ſame ſhall be made in Gold, Silver, or Bank Notes, before the 21ſt of *April* next. *Note alſo*, Mr. *Wood*'s *Iriſh* Half-pence will be taken in Payment, but no Diſcount allow'd thereon.

816. m. 13.
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A Letter from a Merchant at Whitehaven *to his Friend in* London.

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IT is now above four Years ſince Mr. *Wood* came to this Place, upon the Strength of a Patent for making Iron with Oar and Pitcoal in Air-Furnaces: Great was the *Skill* he pretended to; but being invited to give Proof of it in one Furnace, his Anſwer was, *That it was not worth his While to begin till he had Money to ſet up one hundred Furnaces.* We heard little more of him till about *Michaelmas*, 1728, ſeveral of his Stewards came hither, as he himſelf did ſoon after; and then this Country was amaz'd with the Accounts they gave us of their Ability to make ſuch incredible Quantities of Iron; that among other Contracts, he had made one with the Mines Royal Company, by which he was to receive 60 000 *l.* of them in Money, and 5000 Shares of their Stock, valued at 18 *l.* Each; and he was to deliver them 10000 Tuns of the beſt tough malleable Bar-Iron *per Annum*, at 11 and 12 *l.* a Tun, which would be a further great Profit to him, as he could make it for 7 or 8 *l.* a Tun. He ſchem'd ſuch prodigious Works, and made ſo light of Coſt and Expences, that this Country, which is unacquainted with *Stock-Jobbing*, and the *Arts* of raiſing BUBBLES, had no Notion of Peoples erecting *large Buildings* without a Deſign to make *uſe* of them; ſo we were in Hopes of being in a little Time the richeſt Part of the Kingdom; as Mr. *Wood* and his Stewards agreed, there was no Place in all His Majeſty's Dominions ſo well furniſhed with Oar and Pitcoal for carrying on his *Great Deſigns*.

THREE or four Furnaces were ſoon ſet up, but we waited ſome Months before we could ſee any thing *like* Iron made; and that little that was made had only the *Appearance* of Iron, for they would not ſuffer the *Smiths* to try what it was: but ſince the diſperſing of the *Projectors* we find, by many public Trials, that their Iron is neither fit for *Uſe*, nor worth the *making*.

ABOUT *Midſummer*, 1729, eleven Furnaces were finiſhed, and Accounts were ſent by Mr. *Wood*'s Agents to *London*, that they made conſiderable Quantities; *to wit*, ſeveral Tuns a Week of very good Iron; which we knew to be falſe, for it was very little they made; and when the Country deſir'd to ſee the Iron made, and tried, Mr. *Wood* refuſed ſo to do, on pretence the Company would ſue him, if he parted with any: the Company being acquainted with this, ſent expreſs Orders to him, twice, to deliver out Iron to all the *Smiths* at *Whitehaven*, but this was not at all complied with, ſo theNeighbours could only get ſome very little Pieces privately from ſome of his Agents, which all prov'd BAD when tried.

ABOUT the latter End of *October*, 1729, they had, with *great Difficulty*, got together about 10 Tuns, 3 quar. of an C. wt. in all 1426 Bars of about 15 lb. each, which they ſhipt off for *London*, in the Ship *Primroſe*, *Will. Bowman*, Maſter, for the Mines Royal Company, that they might be convinced of the Goodneſs of the Iron; but when the ſaid Iron came to *London*, about the 12th of *November*, not an Ounce of it was deliver'd to the Company; it was kept privately by Mr. *Wood*, and after he had uſed it as he pleas'd for two Months, a few Bars were pretended to be tried, in order to make Affidavits to ſupport his Petition for a *Charter* for a Million of Money, for which he apply'd to the King and Council to enable him to make Iron to ſupply the whole Nation. This was refer'd to the Attorney and Scliciter General, before whom were ſeveral Hearings; and about *Midſummer* following they reported their Opinion againſt granting

granting the ſaid Mr. *Wood* a *Charter*, and ſhew'd the dangerous Conſequences it might be of to His Majeſty's Subjects. Mr. *Wood* not being willing to acquieſce in this, till he could give better Proof of his *Skill* in making Iron, his *Friends* entertain'd this Town with Letters almoſt every Poſt, *That they were promis'd and ſure of a Charter*; they petitioned againſt the Report, and put in abundance of Affidavits, which had been long a preparing, and by that Means ready againſt the *ſhort Day* appointed by the Lords for a Hearing. It happened providentially about that Time, Mr. *Wood*'s truſty Stewards and Agents were quite tired with living at *Friſington* without Work, which they were forc'd to do, becauſe if they made Iron for a *Show*, and did not ſell, it would require Money to carry it on, and if they ſold it, it would convince the whole World it was neither good, nor worth making. The Conſequence of this was, they quarrell'd among themſelves, and ſome of them laid Hold on the ſmall Stock of Iron they had, and ſold it to their *Creditors*, who thought it was better to take that, than get *Nothing*; by this Means ſeveral Hundred weight was bought up by a neighbouring Gentleman, who had three publick Trials made of it by moſt of the chief *Smiths*, and before moſt of the principal Inhabitants of *Whitehaven*, who were all convinc'd thereby, that *it was good for nothing, and did not deſerve the Name of Iron.*

At the ſame Time ſome of Mr. *Wood*'s chief Agents, being wearied with carrying on the Deceit, made a diſcovery of ſeveral notorious Frauds practiſed for near 12 Months then laſt paſt; among the reſt, of their ſending about ten Tuns of their Iron to Mr. *Ruſſel*'s Wood-Charcoal Forge, about 12 Miles off, where it was run down with Wood-Charcoal, and then ſent back to *Friſington*, and ſo by Way of *Whitehaven* for *London*; that the Iron made with Oar and Coal was good for nothing, yet ſo coſtly to make, that it was much dearer than other Iron, in as much as they us'd 8 Tuns of Oar, and 26 Tuns of Coals to make a Tun of Iron; and that was made in ſuch minute Parcels, that the Trouble and Charge was exceſſive. That in making other Bars, they privately put into the Furnaces Filings of Iron or Steel, and Scraps and Pieces of very good Iron among the pulveriz'd Oar and Coal, which bound the Bars together ſo that they could not break ſo eaſily; and in ſuch Barrs made with Scraps, the good Iron is bright, and the reſt of it which is made of the Oar and Coal is black like the Others.

Affidavits of theſe Matters were ſent up to *London*, towards the End of *July* laſt, to inform the Lords of the Truth of the Matter, and in a few Days after, it was given out at *London* that Mr. *Wood* was Dead. The Hearings went on, and great Patience was ſhown, in ſuffering every Thing to be offered in Favour of Mr. *Wood*'s Performances; but it happened unluckily for his Proprietors, that the Witneſſes on Mr. *Wood*'s Side prov'd plainly, *That his Iron was Good for Nothing, and that it would coſt a great deal more to make it than it would ſell for.* So that there was no Occaſion to read the Affidavits which came at that time from the chief Gentlemen, Merchants and Smiths, and others of the Neighbourhood of *Whitehaven*, for the more full Information of the Lords, which would have made it as clear as the Sun, that there was prodigious Perjury and Equivocation, either of the Side of Perſons of great Credit and Subſtance that had no Intereſt, but to ſet forth the Truth of the Matter for the *Publick Good*; or on the Part of thoſe who were deeply Intereſted in the Project, and would be in a *bad way*, if they could not draw in other Folks to venture their Money to *help them out.*

As the Caſe ſtood thus, it was not thought adviſable to grant a Charter, when it was the general Opinion of all People, who inquired about it, *that it was an Impoſture*; and therefore to clear up this Matter, beyond all Poſſibility of Doubt, it is ſaid, a Tryal is to be made in a Furnace near *Chelſea*, whether they can make good Iron there with Coal and Oar brought from *Friſington*, when it is not to be done on the Place from whence it is brought; where People are grown ſo Impertinent as to expect to be ſatisfied, whether the Iron can be made cheap enough for Profit, and without mixtures of Filings of Iron or Steel, or Scraps or Bits of good Iron privately caſt into the Furnaces as their own Stewards confeſs, and the whole Country is convinced was practiſed in the Bars they allowed to be tried, and is viſible in the Barrs now ready to be produced.

Upon the whole Matter it is preſum'd, that thoſe that have made a very bad Uſe of two Patents already granted them for making Iron with Pitcoal, will not be thought the moſt proper Perſons to truſt with a Charter, to draw in His Majeſty's Subjects to part with great Sums of Money, unleſs they will find good Security, that ſuch Subſcribers as are diſatisfied with the Management, may have their Money again, with Intereſt, at any time within two Years.

As it appears by the Attorney and Sollicitor General's Report, that theſe Projectors agreed to give 20000 *l.* to a Principal Perſon in the Mines Royal Company for himſelf and Friends, to obtain that beneficial Contract; and therefore it may be ſuſpected, they will attempt to bribe any Inſpectors of theſe Trials, if a Charter for a Million of Money is to depend upon an Appearance of making a few ſmall Operations at *Chelſea*. It ſeems highly neceſſary for the Security of His Majeſty's unwary Subjects, who may poſſibly be leſs acquainted with the Nature of Bubbles than the Governour and Directors of the Mines Royal Company were, that the Projectors ſhould be oblig'd (before any Opinion in Favour of a Charter is granted) to keep four of their eleven Furnaces now erected at *Friſington* conſtantly at Work for two Months, to ſhow what Quantities of Iron they can make, and to have it publickly tried what Uſes it is fit for, and to have it examined how Cheap it can be made.

That for the Satisfaction of ſuch knowing and underſtanding Perſons, as will attend the Operations at *Chelſea*, the Projectors ſhould, before the ſaid Tryals, publiſh ſo full and plain an Account of what they pretend to do; and ſuch Computations of the Quantities and Price of Coals and Oar to be uſed; the Charge of Buildings, Attendants, Workmen, Labourers, Horſes for Hammering, *&c.* that the Truth of the ſame may be better examined into at the Trials, and thereby the more full Satisfaction be given to thoſe that muſt otherwiſe, if it prove a *Cheat*, loſe the Money they venture, as the Mines Royal Company, and Others, are *grievouſly apprehenſive* is like to be their *Caſe*.

A Letter from a Merchant at Whitehaven, *to his Friend in* London.

816. m. 13. 14

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BEWARE OF BUBBLES.

IN a Paper diſpers'd about the Town by Mr. *Wood*, are ſet forth the ſeveral Advantages that making Iron with Pit-Coal will be to the Publick, as alſo his pretended Method of doing it by calcining the Ore, and pulveriſing both the Ore and Coal, and mixing them together; and he would have it taken for granted, that he really can, and has a Power to do it in his Method, without taking Notice of a Patent granted for that Purpoſe to another Gentleman; and as a Teſtimony that he can do it, he ſays in his Paper as follows, *viz.*

> *Now let us view Mr.* Wood's *Method, and then no Doubt but his ſucceeding will as evidently appear to others, as it did to ſome Perſons of Skill in Iron Affairs, who had the Curioſity to go to* Cumberland *to ſee his Works, where they carefully inſpected every Thing; and having Liberty given them, themſelves directed the working of two Furnaces, whereby they received full Satisfaction that there is no Difficulty in making good merchantable Iron in Air Furnaces, with Pit Coal.*

That it will be of great Advantage to the Nation when done, Nobody Diſputes.

But the only Thing in Doubt is, Whether Mr. *Wood* can or has a Power to do it.

That Mr. *Wood* has no Power to make malliable Iron is evident, a Patent being obtain'd by Mr. *Tomkins*, in the Name of *Roger Woodhouſe*, for the ſole doing thereof; and the Method that Mr. *Wood* takes to induce the World to believe that he can do it, is a very Sly one, and if it takes, will fully anſwer his Purpoſe; for though it ſhould come out, after he has rais'd the Million of Money he prays for, that he neither can, nor has a Power to do it; yet he will be no more a Loſer, than when he had 3000 *l.* a Year granted him on the *Iriſh* Eſtabliſhment for Eight Years, which I believe he likes as well as ſelling two Half-pence for a Penny, though five of them were intrinſically worth but a Penny, and I wiſh his Iron don't prove much the ſame.

But before he has a Power granted him for raiſing ſo large a Sum as a Million, it is to be hoped he ſhall ſhew the World, in a more publick Manner than he has yet done, that he can make good Merchantable Iron with Pit Coal, at a moderate Price.

If he can do it, Why ſhould he be ſhy of making it appear? Why does he not anſwer the Challenge made him in the *London Evening Poſt*, from the 11th to the 28th of *April* Inſtant? There is a Gentleman aſſerts flatly, that Mr. *Wood* neither can nor has a Right to do it; and that Gentleman offers fairly and frankly to build a Work near *London*, (from whence this Million of Money muſt undoubtedly come)

to

to convince all Mankind of the Truth of his Undertaking, and that he is no Cheat or Impoſtor; and gives Mr. *Wood* an open Challenge to do the like; which Mr. *Wood* declines, and rather chooſes to creep into an obſcure Place in *Cumberland*, above 220 Miles off, and there, by trying Experiments, would have the World think the Truth of his Undertaking is aſcertain'd, which will anſwer his End much better than a *London* Experiment, openly and fairly made.

No; Mr. *Wood* has more Wit than to ſtand a publick Trial if he can help it, becauſe he is ſenſible that will put an End to his Project.

It appears by all the Accounts from *Cumberland*, that Mr. *Wood* has given no Satisfaction there of his being able to make good Merchantable Iron; for the Gentlemen and independent Smiths there, have been refuſed to ſee them make their Iron, and have the ſame to try the Goodneſs; and that which they have got ſecretly and unknown to Mr. *Wood*, has been worth nothing; and that Country is ſo far from being convinc'd of Mr. *Wood*'s Skill in this Affair, that they are as much in the Dark as they were before he came there; and are generally of Opinion, that he can make no Sort of Iron that will turn to Account.

That Mr. *Wood* has no Power to do it, is certain, by *Tomkins*'s Patent being ſeveral Years before *Wood*'s attempting to do it; and until Mr. *Wood* gives publick Satisfaction, I and all impartial Men muſt be of Opinion that he cannot do it, and that his Undertaking is not feaſible in all its Branches, as he aſſerts in his Advertiſement in the *Daily Poſt* of the 24th of *March* laſt; and tho' he there offers to give all the Satisfaction that can reaſonably be deſir'd, to any that are deſirous to be better inform'd, yet he declines anſwering the Challenge in the *London Evening Poſt*, which plainly ſhows he only amuſes and trifles with Mankind. If he will advertiſe in the Publick Papers, when and where he will open a Work near *London*, for every Body to ſee the Iron made, and be at Liberty to make Trial of it, by having a Bar deliver'd to them, paying after the Rate of 20*l.* a Ton for it, this would be doing ſomething; but this Mr. *Wood* does not care for; he rather chooſes to ſet People about Town in Coffee-houſes, to cry up his Performances, than to let the Truth be made apparent to the World.

Mr. *Wood* in his Paper ſays, there are four Sorts of Iron, *viz.* Redſhort, Coldſhort, Beſt-tough, and Ordinary-tough, and that none of which are fit for all Uſes.

But he avoids ſaying which of theſe Sorts his Iron is of, or what it is good for.

Mr. *Wood*, in all his Papers and Advertiſements artfully avoids coming to a publick Trial, well knowing that would be the entire Deſtruction of his Project.

Mr. *William Fallowfield's*

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PROPOSAL

For making Iron with PEAT, *at Ten Pounds a Ton, in purſuance of a PATENT granted to him by His late Majeſty.*

AFTER the notorious Abuſe of the Publick, and the ſeveral Loſſes of many particular Perſons, and Families by Mr. *Wood*'s Project for making Iron with Pit Coal, any Propoſal of the like ſort will be in Danger of meeting with a cold Reception.

A Method of making as good Iron as Mr. *Wood* vaunted, and better cannot be than what he promis'd, nor worſe than what he produc'd, I have found out ſome time ſince, by which the Expence is not above one Half the Charge of making it with Wood Charcoal, and after many Trials fully anſwering, I obtain'd His late Majeſty's Patent for making Iron with PEAT; and it was only on account of the vaſt Rout and Buſtle that Mankind has been amus'd with about Mr. *Wood* and his Confederates making Iron with *pulveriz'd Ore and Pit Coal*, that I have been hitherto delay'd putting forward my Invention, which anſwers in all Reſpects, both as to the Goodneſs of the Iron, and the Cheapneſs of making it.

This Fuel is produc'd in great Plenty, in almoſt all the Counties where Iron Stone is found, as if Nature had purpoſely prepar'd it for this Uſe. The Heat is evidently more intenſe, ſince it will make a Bloom half an Hour ſooner than Charcoal will, and makes Iron and Steel from the Ore, thro' all the Gradations, not only in as great, but greater Perfection, and in leſs Time than Wood Charcoal.

This I can make good by plain and publick Proof, without any *Leger-de-main* Tricks, falſe Witneſſes, or evaſive and equivocating Affidavits, ſo lately made uſe of by Projectors to carry on their Schemes, to get large Sums of Money from credulous People.

As I may ſafely appeal to all Gentlemen, Smiths, and others, in the Neighbourhood of Mr. *Wood*'s Works in *Cumberland*, where he and his Confederates have been carrying on their Projects for above two Years, that the Iron they make with *pulveriz'd Ore and Pit Coal*, is good for nothing, and much dearer to make than the beſt Iron may be bought for. I can alſo appeal to all Perſons in the Neighbourhood of my Furnace near *Leek* in *Staffordſhire*, that have given themſelves the Trouble to ſee my Method of making Iron with Peat, whether the Iron is not as good as any made with Wood Charcoal. I am alſo deſirous, that all Perſons that are willing either to encourage, or to be fully ſatisfied of the Uſefulneſs and great Certainty of my Invention, ſhould either by themſelves, or by proper Workmen, and other knowing Perſons that they can rely on, have the moſt plain and full Demonſtration that is poſſible, by ſeeing the Furnace at Work, and computing every Part of the Expence, till there is no Room left for any Doubt about the Truth and Certainty of my Performance.

When any Perſon ſo ſatisfied of my Ability to make Iron in this Method, and of my making it for Ten Pounds a Ton, is diſpoſed to give his Aſſiſtance towards making this Invention more extenſive and more beneficial to the Nation, by promoting Works in ſeveral Parts of the Kingdom, he may be pleas'd, as he likes beſt, either to contract with me for Quantities of Iron to be deliver'd him at the End of Six Months, paying down one Half of the Money at the Signing the Contract, and the other Half at the Delivery of the Iron, which he ſhall have 20 *per Cent.* under the Market Price. Or, if he chooſe rather to have the whole Security in his own Hands, any Perſon that has Quantities of Ore and Peat, or will take Leaſes of the ſame, and advance Money for building Works, and carrying on the Undertaking in ſuch a manner as ſhall be agreed on between him and me, ſhall have ſuch a Proportion of the Profit of all the Iron that ſhall be made and ſold, as ſhall be a handſome Encouragement to him to advance Money to carry on an Invention ſo very uſeful and beneficial to the Nation, as well as to the Perſons intereſted in the ſame.

William Fallowfield.

Mr. *Fallowfield's*

PROPOSAL

FOR

Making Iron with PEAT.

816. m. 13.
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Some Conſiderations,

Humbly offered to the Honourable Houſe of Commons, *concerning the Propoſed Repeal of an Act lately Paſſed to render the Laws Prohibiting the Importation of Foreign Bonelace, &c. more Effectual.*

THE making Bonelace has been an ancient Manufacture of *England*; and the Wiſdom of our Parliaments all along thought it the Intereſt of this Kingdom to prohibit its Importation from Foreign Parts; but the Laws formerly made not proving Effectual, one more ſtrict paſſed 36 Years ſince in the 14th of King *Charles* II. which ſaid Act recites, *That great Numbers of the Inhabitants of this Kingdom were then employ'd in making the ſaid Manufacture.*

Since that time the ſame has encreaſed to a great Degree, till of late Years, the Art of Smugling being grown to greater Perfection than formerly, larger Quantities of *Flanders*-Lace have been Clandeſtinely imported, which occaſioned the Enforcing of the Former Prohibition Acts by a late One made in the 10th Year of His preſent Majeſty.

This has revived the ſaid Languiſhing Manufacture, and there are now above One hundred thouſand People in *England* who get their Living by it, and Earn by meer Labour Five hundred thouſand Pounds a Year, according to the loweſt Computation that can be made; and the Perſons employed in it, are for the moſt part Women and Children, who have no other means of Subſiſtence.

The *Engliſh* are now arrived to make as good Lace, in Fineneſs, and all other reſpects, as any that is wrought in *Flanders*; and particularly ſince the late Act ſo great an Improvement is made that way, that in *Buckinghamſhire* the higheſt prized Lace they uſed to make was about Eight Shillings *per* Yard, and now they make Lace there of above Thirty Shillings *per* Yard; and in *Dorſetſhire* and *Devonſhire* they now make Lace worth Six Pound *per* Yard; and in other Places proportionably.

Some of the Dealers in *Flanders*-Lace ſuggeſted when the laſt Act was paſſing, That by it the Retailers Shops would be Rifled, and they Harraſſed, and many other Inconveniencies would enſue; none of which have happened, nor have the Shopkeepers now made any Complaint: The Act has only in ſome Meaſure anſwered the honeſt Intent of it, to Encourage a great Manufacture of our own, and to Diſcourage Smuglers and Unfair Traders.

If the ſaid Act ſhould now be repealed, it had much better not have been made; for if a Prohibition ſtand, as by the former Acts it will, and that which ſhould render it Effectual is taken away, all the World will conclude the meaning of the Parliament to be, That the former Acts ſhould be winked at, and the Officers will Act accordingly; And thi-

this will become a Snare to a great many Honeſt and Induſtrious People who have Set up and Encouraged the Making of Fine Bonelace, as well as take away the Livelihood of thoſe who were before in the Trade; and will be the firſt Inſtance in *England*, That ſeveral Laws remained in Force, and another to render them Effectual was Repealed.

If we ſhall judge by the ſame Rules, as in other Matters, and not by the Suggeſtions of Private Perſons concerned in Intereſt, it will be found, That the late Act about Lace was not the Cauſe of the Complaint in *Flanders*, nor any Inducement to the Prohibition of our Woollen Manufacture there. It is certain they do not only not give that for any Reaſon in the Placaet which contains the Prohibition, but they expreſly give other Reaſons for it; as appears by a Copy of the Preamble of the ſaid Placaet: The Tranſlation whereof follows.

CHARLES, by the Grace of God, King of Caſtile, &c. **Foraſmuch as We are informed by the Great Complaints which are made to Us by ſeveral Deputies of Our Cities, who had firſt heard the General Complaints of the Inhabitants thereof, of the great Quantities of all ſorts of Foreign Manufactures that were Vended and Sold in theſe Parts of Our Dominion, eſpecially the Manufactures of Wooll, whereby great part of Our Inland Manufactures are come to nothing, and Our good Subjects, by means thereof, cannot earn their Livings in Our Country, and thereby have been neceſſitated to retire into other Kingdoms and Countries, where they are detained by ſundry Promiſes, and other Encouragements; which was come ſo far, as that the ſaid Kingdoms and Countries being now ſufficiently provided with Work-people, the Importation of Our Woollen Manufactures into them was Prohibited, and ſo great Duties laid on the reſt, that the ſaid Duties might be eſteemed indirectly a Prohibition: All which tends not only to the great Prejudice of Us and Our Subjects, but alſo to the total Ruin of the Fabricks of theſe Countries, and particularly of that of the Woollen Manufacture. Wherefore for prevention thereof, and to encourage Our ſaid Subjects to cauſe the ſaid Woollen Manufactures to Flouriſh, and to be Re-eſtabliſhed in this Country, and with their utmoſt Zeal to Reſtore this Fabrick, We, by the Advice,** &c.

Then follows the Prohibition, which Forbids all Woollen Manufacture, *&c.* to be Imported after Six Weeks, and allows Two Years for the Spending what is there.

Hereby it appears,

1. That they have not only Prohibited the Woollen Manufacture from *England*, but from *Holland*, *French Flanders*, and other Parts

2. That the Reaſon of ſo doing, was, That ſome had Prohibited their Woollen Manufactures, and others had laid ſo great Duties upon other Manufactures of theirs, that it amounted to a Prohibition. Neither of which Reaſons can be applied to the late Act about Lace, but to the high Duty upon their Brown Linnens; which is that which they are really aggrieved at, and not the other: For, *Firſt*, their Brown Linnens are in a manner Prohibited thereby: *Secondly*, The Lace which uſed to come for *England*, is but a ſmall Part of their whole Lace-Trade; for they vend it to *Holland*, *Germany*, *Sweden*, *Denmark*, *France*, *Spain*, *Portugal*,

tugal, &c. whereas we make it chiefly to ſerve our own Country and Plantations.

By late Advices from *Flanders*, it is ſaid, That the great Projected Manufacture of Cloth and other Things, are vaniſhed into Smoak, after having been talked of for above Two Years; and that there is a Proſpect that the Prohibition would be taken off, and the Trade between them and *England* and *Holland* ſoon be opened again.

And this they will find Reaſon to do, leſt we ſhould Prohibit their Linnens, which is of more Concern to them than their Lace, the latter being made for the moſt part by the Nuns. However, the Eaſing the high Duty on their Brown Linnens, will be an Advantage to them, and no Loſs to the Crown in Cuſtoms, becauſe little of it can be uſed now here.

They in *Flanders* have often attempted to recover their Woollen Manufacture; but for many Reaſons, which ſtill remain in force, could never accompliſh it.

The Lace Manufacture in *England* is the greateſt next to the Woollen, and maintains a multitude of People, which otherwiſe the Pariſhes muſt, and that would ſoon prove a heavy Burthen, even to thoſe Concerned in the Woollen Manufacture.

Wherefore it is humbly hoped, That the Honourable Houſe of *COMMONS* will be very deliberate in a Matter of ſuch Moment, inaſmuch as on the Reſolution which ſhall be taken in this Affair, depends the Well-being or Ruin of numerous Families in their own Country.

Many Laws have been made to ſet our Poor on Work; and it is hoped none will be made to take away Work from Multitudes who are already Employed.

Here follows an Account of the Numbers of the People in a few Places, which get their Living by Making of Lace, certified by Perſons of Reputation; and if there were time to procure the reſt, it would appear that there are much above One hundred thouſand.

Downton	(*Wilts.*)	336	*Solbery*	Dit.	155
Sarum	Ditto	1081	*Oving*	Dit.	66
Weſton Turvill	(*Bucks.*)	96	*Swanburn*	Dit.	129
Holton	Ditt.	74	*Quainton*	Dit.	116
Aylesbury	Ditt.	429	*Bow Brickhull*	Dit.	140
Buckland Beathong	Ditt.	59	*North Crawley*	Dit.	403
Drayton Beuchamp } *Aſton Abbots* }	Ditt.	69	*Fenny Stratford*	Dit.	192
			Alney	Dit.	1302
Hanſlop	Dit.	830	*Newport Pannell*	Dit.	1378
Murſley	Dit.	114	*Stony Stratford*	Dit.	817
Newnton Longvile	Dit.	153		Dit.	654
Blechbey	Dit.	150	*Gancock*	Dit.	77
Stoakhamon	Dit.	78	*Chard*	Dit.	156
Blecheley	Dit.	101	*Blandford*	Dit.	500
Whitchurch	Dit.	119	*Wincanton*, and Adjacent Pariſhes.		1456
North Marſton	Dit.	136			

Sharton

Sharton		947
Yeovill		711
Gittesham	(*Devon.*)	139
Culliton	Dit.	353
Coumbraligh	Dit.	65
Northleigh	Dit.	32
Sidmouth	Dit.	302
Axmouth	Dit.	73
Sidbury	Dit.	321
Buckerall	Dit.	90
Farway	Dit.	70
Mounckton	Dit.	64
Upotery	Dit.	118
Shut and *Musbery*	Dit.	25
Southley	Dit.	45
Fennyton	Dit.	60
Branscomb Beare and *Seaton*	Dit.	326
Widworthy and *Offerell*	Dit.	128
Broad Hembury	Dit.	118
Honyton	Dit.	1341
Luppit	Dit.	215
Axminster	Dit.	60
Otrey St. Mary	Dit.	814
Centun alias *Donten*	(*North.*)	257
Little Houghton	Dit.	60
Wellingbrough	Dit.	1146
Wilby		69
Earls Barton	Dit.	127
Ecton	Dit.	44
Tarcester	Dit.	591
Castle Ashby	Dit	64
Braxsey	Dit.	154
Whittlebury	Dit.	206
Yardly Hasting	Dit.	442
Ashton	Dit.	101
Gredon	Dit.	259
Tring	(*Hertfordshire*)	95
Lime Regis	(*Dorsetshire*)	404
Wootten Fytepain	Dit.	48
Docheſter	Dit.	554
Cranfeild	(*Bedford*)	652
Molsoe		174
Charmouth		87
Uplime		41
	In all	23358

The CASE of the Lacemakers,

In relation to the Importation of Foreign Bone-lace, *&c.*

K England 816. m. 13
William III.
152

REASONS

Humbly offered for Paſſing an Act, more ſtrictly to Prohibit the Importation of Foreign Bone-Lace, &c.

THE ſaid Lace is already prohibited by a Statute made in the 14th year of King *Charles* the II. but the proof that the Lace ſeized is foreign lying upon the Informer, the ſaid Act has proved ineffectual, and vaſt quantities are daily imported into this Kingdom.

1. The Importation of which hinders the bringing into *England* great quantities of fine Thread which otherwiſe would be imported and uſed in the ſaid Manufacture here, and pay the King a great duty.

2. By the beſt computation that can be made, 100000 *l. per annum* ready money is carried out of the Kingdom, to pay for the ſame; whereby the Nation is impoveriſhed.

3. It has ruined many thouſands in *England*, bred up to the Art of making, many whereof are fallen upon the Pariſhes where they live for maintenance, inſomuch that ſome Pariſhes that formerly paid not above 50 *l. per annum* to the poor, pay now above four hundred pounds.

4. This Myſtery is in *England* grown to ſo great perfection, that the makers of Bone-Lace here can make as good in all reſpects as is made beyond Sea.

5. There are at leaſt 200000 people (whereof the greateſt number are women and children) employed in this Manufacture, and the children being hereby inured to work, and bred to induſtry, are kept from idleneſs and begging, and taught a Trade, whereon they may live when they come to Age: *And This is the greateſt Manufacture in* England, *the Woollen only excepted*, (ſix or eight pounds worth of Thread making the value of one hundred pounds worth of Lace.)

6. But by reaſon of the vaſt quantities of foreign Lace imported, the Market is glutted, the *Engliſh* Manufacturers diſcouraged, the poor children not ſet at work, as formerly, to their utter ruin, by getting a habit of idleneſs, which in time leads to greater miſchiefs and inconveniencies.

7. Much the greater number of Shop-keepers and Retailers of Lace have petitioned, and are really for an effectual prohibition; and only ſome few Retailers, inſtigated by the importers of foreign Lace, and who are themſelves the chief traders in it, endeavour to raiſe objections againſt this Bill.

REASONS

For the

Lace-Bill.

816. m. 13 K. England. William III. 18 152

REASONS

Humbly offered for Paſſing the Bill for rendring the Laws more effectual for Prohibiting Foreign Bone-Lace, &c.

bill ordered 23 Dec 1697

THe Importers of foreign Lace not thinking it their Intereſt to appear openly againſt the Bill, have prevailed with ſome Shop-keepers to raiſe objections againſt ſome parts of it; to which an anſwer is here given.

Obj. 1. *That the Retailer muſt prove the Goods ſeized to be* Engliſh, *and that tho himſelf ſwears he bought them for* Engliſh, *and others ſwear they believe them to be ſuch, yet he ſhall be lyable to the penalties if the Jury believe them to be Foreign.*

Anſwer. 1. If a Jury believe them to be Foreign, it is true he is ſubject to the penalties. but it is not reaſonable to think that a Jury will believe thoſe Laces to be Foreign, which the Retailer proves he bought for *Engliſh*, and others skilled in the Commodity ſhall ſwear they believe to be ſuch.

2. The greateſt part of the Lace ſold is eaſily diſtinguiſhable by the Eye, and it cannot be ſuppoſed, that a Seizer will be at the charge of a ſuit for Lace that there is not good reaſon to believe is foreign.

3. The *onus probandi* has in many other Acts been put upon the perſon in whoſe cuſtody the goods are found, and no inconvenience has been found thereby.

4. Where goods are not diſtinguiſhable by view or taſte, the Seizer cannot poſſibly prove them to be foreign, but the owner knowing how he came by them, may eaſily prove them to be *Engliſh*.

5. If any Lace is ſold to a Retailer for *Engliſh* which proves to be foreign, the Retailer has his remedy by Law againſt the Seller, and may recover all his damages; and no doubt, in that caſe the firſt Verdict that the goods are foreign will be a ſufficient evidence to another Jury to give damages, becauſe if the Seller can prove them to be *Engliſh* at a ſecond tryal, he may and will do ſo at the firſt, whatever the Paper againſt this Bill ſuggeſts to the contrary, and the Buyer no doubt for his own ſake will give the Seller notice of any ſeizure.

Obj. 2. *That if a malicious or beggarly Informer ſeize* 500 l. *worth of Goods he has* 12 *motnhs time to proſecute, and the Goods muſt lye all the while.*

Anſwer. The writer of the Paper has clearly miſtaken the Bill in this point, for

1. The Goods ſeized (if foreign) muſt be preſently carried to the next Cuſtom-Houſe, and muſt be proſecuted as ſoon as the courſe of the Exchequer Court will admit, or elſe they will be delivered back, and if any *Engliſh* Lace ſhould by miſtake be ſeized as foreign, no doubt but upon the owners making it appear they are ſuch, they will immediately be delivered back, as the practice now is notwithſtanding the prohibition, and as it may be continued notwithſtanding any thing in this Bill.

2. The Clauſe at the latter end of the Bill, that no offence againſt this Act ſhall be proſecuted after 12 months, is in favour of the perſons offending, that they may not always be liable to Informations in the Attorney Generals name for importing prohibited Goods, but none of the penalties of this Act can be ſo recovered unleſs the Lace it ſelf be ſeized.

Obj. 3. *The perſons that claim any Goods ſeized muſt be bound in* 20 l. *to pay the coſt if the Goods are condemned.*

Anſwer. This is in other Acts of prohibition, and the reaſon is, that otherwiſe Goods may be claimed in the names of perſons unknown and of no ſubſtance, on purpoſe to put the Seizer to charge and vexation, and when a recovery is had, the Seizer knows not where to look for his charges, and ſometimes the whole value of the Goods ſeized will not pay the charges.

Obj. 4. *If the Informer or Seizer will not proſecute the Goods ſeized, another may, and if none will, the owner ſhall have them again, making Oath he blieves them to be* Engliſh, *and giving an account of whom he bought them, and this the paper thinks not poſſible to do, at leaſt for what is paſt;*

Anſwer. 1. That another has liberty to proſecute if the Informer does not, is becauſe otherwiſe the Informer or Seizer may be bought off for a ſmall matter to deſiſt proſecution.

2. There is nothing more eaſy than for a Shopkeeper to keep an account of whom he Buys his Goods, and by marking them, to know they are the ſame, and for what is paſt, there is ſix months time given by this Act for diſpoſing what they have, and if any perſons have by them any Lace that they doubt of whom it was bought, they may put that off in the mean time; but theſe are believed to be only pretences, becauſe the Dealers and Sellers of *Flanders* Lace are all ſubſtantial perſons.

Obj. 5. *That the Promoters of this Bill have been concerned in Foreign Lace.*

Anſwer. Admitting it to be ſo, it cannot appear ſo very ſtrange, for if there be not an effectual prohibition, Lace-men may be tempted rather to deal in foreign Lace, then be wholly deprived of the benefit of their Trade; but for the good of their Country, they are willing the prohibition be as ſtrict as may be, and whatever ill convenience can be ſuppoſed thereby to others they will be the ſame to them, but they apprehend none.

AN ANSWER

To the Objections againſt the

LACE-BILL.

D. 190.
K 153
Republic of-
Contarini (Domenico II.) Doge
816. m. 13.
18.*

An ACT

For Prohibiting Foreign Leather in *VENICE.*

Tranſlated from Italian.

THE moſt Serene Prince doth Declare, and it is by Order of the moſt Illuſtrious and Excellent Lords, *Proveditors* over the *Old Juſtice*, Preſidents of the moſt Excellent Colledge of Arts;

That for the future it ſhall not be Lawful to any Perſon of what degree or condition ſoever, to Import into this City in any manner, nor under any ſpecious pretext or way, Hides, or Calve-Skins Dreſſed, nor any other ſort of Leather Dreſſed or wrought out of *Venice*, as the Trade of Leather-Dreſſers do it, nor to keep them in their Shops, Houſes, Warehouſes, or other places; nor to uſe, or cauſe them to be uſed by themſelves, or by others, in little or great quantity, on any pretext or cauſe imaginable, under Penalty of the Loſs of the Goods found in Tranſgreſſion, which ſhall be Burnt, and of One hundred Ducats for every time, which ſhall be divided according to Law: Not underſtanding however to be comprehended in this Prohibition, Skins which come from the *Levant*.

They who have any of the ſaid Foreign Leather Dreſſed or wrought as above, ſhall in the ſpace of eight days give it in Note to the Husband of the Trade, that it may in the ſpace of the next eight days be Sealed with the Seal of the Trade, and be diſpoſed of in the term of three months enſuing; otherwiſe, in caſe of non-obſervance, they remain liable to all the aboveſaid Penalties.

And the better to remove all difficulty in the Cognizance and Diſtinction of Leather of Foreign Dreſs, from that Dreſſed in *Venice*, every Maſter-Leather-Dreſſer ſhall Seal with a Seal of his own all the Leather he hath by him Dreſſed, and ſucceſſively from time to time all he ſhall work or make, none excepted; otherwiſe any Leather being found Dreſſed, and not Sealed, ſhall be eſteemed as found in Actual Tranſgreſſion, and incur the aboveſaid Penalties, as Leather of Foreign Dreſs. The ſaid Leather-Dreſſers in eight days time ſhall give notice to the *Old Juſtice* of their Seal they will uſe, that the Re-incounter may be made, under penalty of Ten Ducats to be divided as above.

13 *November*, 1674.

Publiſhed by Andrea Veratti, *Officer on the Exchange-Stairs.*



816.m.13.
19

Reaſons humbly offered to the High Court of Parliament againſt Laying a Duty of one Peny per Pound upon Tann'd Leather, Setting forth the Great Inconveniencies that will ariſe, if the ſame ſhould Paſs.

154

THE Duty will be near a Fifth part of the Value, which, with humble Submiſſion, is Conceived will be more then the Commodity will now bear; for altho we have had Exportation for it many years, yet ſtill there is enough to ſuyply our ſelves at Home as well as our Neigbours Abroad, at very reaſonable Rates, and at this time Forreign Demands will not allow our Merchants here to give above Five pence half penny *per* Pound, and the advanceing One peny *per* Pound will put a ſtop to its going Abroad; and if ſo, our Conſumption at Home will not take it off our hands; and if Tanners cannot advance it in the Leather, then it muſt be abated in the Raw Hides and Sknis, and to abate the Fifth part of the value 'twill greatly diſcourage the Breeding and Feeding of Cattle, and conſequently Lower the value of Lands and price of Barke.

Obj. If it be Objected, That the Merchants ſhall draw back the Duty then 'twill Encourage the price?

Anſwer. True it is, it will be likely to advance the price, but yet it is humbly conceived, that will not advance Leather to be capable to pay ſo great a Duty; for ſuch is the diſuſe of Leather now in England (to what is has been) notwithſtanding the Exportation of it, yet there are ſuch ſtores Lying upon the Peoples hands, that they now Sell for a Third Peny leſs then formerly, and the rather, becauſe we have great quantities of *Ruſſia* and *Turky* Leather imported (of which there is little notice taken) that is now become a great wear in Shoes and ſeveral other Uſes, together with Cloth and Sheep-skins, which greatly leſſens the Conſumption of our Tann'd Leather, and that together with the Poverty of the People, will in all probability Stop the Riſe of Leather; And if ſo, then it muſt fall upon the Raw-Hides and Skins as aſſerted, And if the Marchant hath not Liberty to draw back his Duty, then we are certain not to raiſe it in the Leather; And that the Shoe-maker knows very well: For in their Reaſons which they give your Honours, they ſay, If a new Duty be laid, do but make the Exporter pay, and we have no more to ſay to the Bill, becauſe they know this Duty upon the Marchant, will in efect ſtop its going Abroad, and then there will be ſuch great Quantities at Home, that it cannot be raiſed upon them here.

2*d.* This Duty will advance Shoes to Six Pence a pair; for Trades-Men generally reckon, that Twenty Shillings worth of Leather will not make above eight pair of Mens Shoes, which will coſt the Shoe-maker Fourteen pence a Pair making, ſo the prime coſt is one Pound Nine Shillings and four Pence; and at four Shillings a pair the Shoe-maker has but Two Shillings and eight pence in every Two and Thirty Shillings, to pay Rent, and provide for himſelf and Family, and pay Servants Wages, together with the King's Taxes and pariſh Duties.

Object. If it be Objected, that a pair of Mens Shoes will not weigh above Two pounds and a half, or there abouts, how can it then advance Six pence a pair?

Anſw. To this it is Anſwered, That Leather Rough in the Market, weighs near as much more as when it is Dreſſed by the Currier, and made up in Shoes; Beſides, the Shoemaker loſes an eight part by Cutting and paring the Leather off in the Workmanſhip; which being duly Conſidered, it will amount to as much in every pair of Shoes as before aſſerted; And if ſo, then it will be more burthenſome then a poll-Tax, beſide the great diſcouragement to Trade.

3*d.* Leather is Rated in the ſtock this preſent Seſſions of *Parliament*, at Four and Twenty Shillings for every Hundreds pound worth, and it ſeems hard to lay a ſecond Duty upon the ſaid Commodity in one and the ſame Year.

4*th.* This will Ruine many thouſand Families in *England*; for many Tanners with One hundred and Fifty, or Two hundred pounds Stock, do make ſhift very Comfortably to Trade and maintain their Families; But if this Duty paſs, a Fifth part of their Stocks becomes immediatly the Kings; Beſides, the Tanner muſt be obliged to ſell his Leather to lay in his Store of Bark for the year enſuing, and will not have an Opportunity to furniſh himſelf with Raw Hides till the Slaughter comes in, and before the poor Artificer can come to help himſelf, that ſtock upon which he Treaded and lived is eat up and gone. For ſuppoſe it ſhould be granted, That at length Tann'd Leather ſhould advance to pay this Duty (although very unlikely) yet the Ruine of the poor Artificer is certain before this can be accompliſhed; for there are many Leather-Sellers, and other dealing in Leather, that have great Quantities now lying upon their hands, and this being Bought of the Tanner before the Act takes place, payes no Duty, it is ſold to the Worker, and converter into made Wares, and by that means theſe great Retailers of Leather will out-do the Tanner, that muſt pay for his preſent ſtock when rateable, and the other, that is not at one peny Charge in the Manufactures, ſhall go free, and thereby will keep down the Market, by ſupplying Artificers in their Shops, and get more then the Tanners that manufacture the Commodity.

5th. There will be ſo many perplexing difficulties that will attend the Collecting of it, that the King will not receive above one halfe of what the Duty comes to; And although all Leather be brought to publick Markets, yet the Impractibility of it is ſuch, notwithſtanding there is a Law in the Firſt Year of King *James* the Firſt, That no Perſon or Perſons ſhall put, or cauſe to be put to Sale, any kind of Red Tann'd Leather, but in open Fair or Market, upon the Forfeiture of ſix Shillings and eight Pence for every Hide or Piece of Leather ſo ſold or departed with; Yet nevertheleſs, two Thirds of the Leather Tann'd in *England* will be ſold out of publick Fair or Market, and more now then ever herefore has been, ſince an Act made in the Firſt Year of Ther preſent Majeſties, for Explaining an Act made in the Firſt of King *James* the Firſt, Chapter the 22*d.* which gives Liberty, That it ſhall and may be Lawful to and for all Leather-Sellers, Curriers, Shoemakers, and others dealing in Leather, freely to buy all ſorts of Red Tann'd Leather, and having ſo bought the ſame, to ſell it again to any perſon or perſons whatſoever, in their publick and open Shops.

[illegible] of Buying in Tanners Yards cannot be detected; for if they buy but a few in the publick Market ſealed, [illegible]ure to keep that piece by them that has the Seale on; and when that which is Irregular bought is cut in pieces, and mingled among [illegible]hich is uſually done) it will be impoſſible to diſcern the difference between that bought in the Market, and that bought [illegible] if the Leather-Seller did not hope to play his Game that way, 'tis believed he would not be ſo willing to have this Duty paſs, [illegible]aw in King *James* the Firſt, expreſly ſays, That no perſon whatſoever, ſhall or may Buy, Sell, Bargaine, Beſpeak or Take, [illegible]ve, Exchange or put away any Tann'd Leather, not wrought and converted into made Wares, upon Forfeiture of their Leather [illegible]Exchanged or put away, or the juſt Value thereof.

LONDON, Printed by *H. Hills*, in *Black-Fryers*, near the Water-ſide. 1694.

To the Honorable Houſe of C

now Aſſembled in PARLIAMENT.

The humble Petition of certain Merchants.

Humbly ſheweth,

THAT your Petitioners have cauſed to be bought and provided ſeverall parcels of Calves-Skins virtue of Mr. Maxwels Patent; which were ſhipped, and have paid the Kings Cuſtomes, the licen wels Deputies, the viſiting, telling, and packing to the ſworne ſeverall Officers appointed for it; yet they taken up, and are ſtayed by order of this honorable Houſe.

Now, for that the ſaid Calves-Skins are as free Merchandize to be tranſported as any other, for ought your Petitioners kno to the contrary; and for that your Petitioners have cauſed all the ſaid Calves-skins to be bought before the order of this Honorable Aſſembly for the ſtaying of them: And foraſmuch as the Petitioners had no warning to ceaſe buying and tranſporting, and that they have been tolled, viſited, and packed up by the ſworn Officers appointed for the ſame, and part of them brought to the Cuſtome houſe Key, and there Shipped by the Officers, having paid the Kings Cuſtomes, the Licence and all other duties, as aforeſaid, part of them have alſo paid all duties, but not yet Shipped, and a ſmall part are at the Curriers to be dreſſed.

And foraſmuch as the ſtaying of them would be a great hinderance and exceeding loſſe to your Petitioners (the ſaid Calves-skins being fitted and dreſſed for tranſportation) will in ſhort time decay, and be much the worſe, in regard they are dreſſed all ruſſet in oyle.

Therefore your Petitioners humbly pray this Honorable Aſſembly that they may have free liberty and convenient time, to Ship and tranſport thoſe that are already entred, and have paid all duties, and thoſe that are already bought and dreſſed at the Curriers; or elſe that the Shoemakers, who be oppoſers, may take all the ſaid Skins at the ſame price they coſt with dreſſing; And that your Petitioners may have the Cuſtome and Licence money and other duties repaid them,

And your Petitioners ſhall pray, &c.

Reaſons to be alledged on the behalfe of the ſaid Merchants that have bought a quantitie of Calves Skinnes to Tranſport, and are ſtayed by order of Parliament.

THe King by his Letters Patents doth licence *James Maxwell* Eſq. his Executors, Adminiſtrators and Aſſignes for 21 yeers, by him, or by themſelves, or by his or their Deputies, Servants or Factors, or any of them to buy and tranſport within that time 18000. Dickers of Leather of Calves-Skinnes, accounting 10 dozen of Calves-Skinns to every Dicker, and in ſuch proportions, quantity and number, as to him, them or any of them ſhall be thought meet and convenient, and them to utter, ſell and diſpoſe to their beſt profit, commodity and advantage, without any danger, forfeiture, loſſe, penaltie or moleſtation againſt him or them, or any of them, to be had by the King, his Heires and Succeſſors. And without any let and diſturbance of any other perſon whatſoever. Any Statute, Proclamation and reſtraint to the contrary, in any wiſe notwithſtanding.

1 This Liſence is granted to Mr. *Maxwell*, his Deputies, Servants or Factors.

2 It is granted for a certaine number of Calves-Skinnes, and not for as many as he pleaſeth.

3 That it is for Calves-Skinnes, without deſcribing the bigneſſe or waite, but generally Calves-Skinnes.

4 That there ſhall be no danger of forfeiture for any ſuch tranſportation.

5 That there is a *Non obſtante* of any Statute, Proclamation, or reſtraint to the contrary.

Theſe Merchants, by vertue of a Warrant or Licenſe from Mr. Maxwell, *and his Deputies, have lately bought, in open Market, and not in private houſes, and ſhipped for tranſportation at a lawfull Key, and at lawfull houres, ſeverall quantities of Calves-Skinnes.*

Before they were ſhipped, they were viſited, told and packed by the ſeverall ſworne Officers appointed for that purpoſe.

By all them they were allowed to be Calves-Skinnes, and Cuſtome hath been paid for them as Calves-Skinnes, and yet are ſtayed by order.

The Queſtion will be.

1 Whether M. *Maxwells* Licenſe be legall, or no?

2 Whether theſe Merchants have purſued that Licenſe, or tranſgreſſed it, yea or no, which is no other then whether the Skinnes they have ſhipped be Calves-Skinnes, within the Licenſe.

For the firſt, it is conceived the Licenſe is Legall, for theſe reaſons.

1 By the Common Law, all manner of Leather, being a Merchandize of the kingdome, is lawfull to be bought by any Merchant and tranſported at his pleaſure; So that unleſſe there were ſome Statute-Law to prohibit it, there needed not to have heene any Licenſe at all.

2 There is no Statute-Law that ever did prohibit the tranſportation of Leather, that did take away any power from the king, of granting any Licenſe, but have rather provided to make good thoſe Licenſes.

This Statute doth enact, That if any perſon ſhall tranſport any tanned-Leather, they ſhall pay trebble Cuſtome; but with a proviſo, That it ſhall not extend where any Licenſes were granted for tranſportation.

Note, By this Law, the King might grant Licenſes to Tranſport.

This Statute doth enact againſt Ingroſſers of Leather, that buy to ſell againe; and yet notwithſtanding doth expreſly provide That it ſhould be lawfull for any one that had, or ſhould have Licenſe from the King, to buy and to tranſport any kinde of Leather.

Note, Here was ſtill an intention to preſerve the Kings power of Licenſing.

And although there were Statutes more ſevere againſt tranſportation of Leather, as the Statutes of 1° *Eliz. cap.* 8. and 14° *Eliz. cap.* 4. which made it felony to tranſport, yet there was never any clauſe or proviſion To take away the kings power of Licenſing.

And although the two former Statutes in the time of *E.* 6. be repealed by the Stat. of 5° *Eli. cap.* 8. yet as to that proviſion for Licenſing mentioned in the Statute of 5° & 6° *E.* 6. *cap.* 15. there is no repeale; So, that for ought appeares by any Statute, that proviſion remaines of force unto this day.

There is at this day no Statute-Law in force againſt tranſportation of Leather but this Stat. of 18° *Eliz.* and it is ſtrongly conceived that this Statute doth not take away any power from the king of Licenſing, but cleerly allowes the king a power to Licenſe, although not in expreſſe termes.

In the firſt part of the Act it is plaine That it ſhall not be lawfull for any perſon to tranſport any Leather upon paine of forfeiture of the Leather, and treble the value thereof.

The Ship to bee forfeited.

The Maſter to forfeit all his goods and chattels, and to have impriſonment by the ſpace of one whole yeere.

And then it doth further enact, That every perſon that ſhall ſhip or carry away any Leather beyond the Sea, ſhall pay for Cuſtome,

For every Hyde 10ˢ.

For every dozen of Calves-skinnes 3ˢ 4ᵈ.

It is conceived that this latter part of the Act muſt of neceſſity bee intended of ſuch as have licenſe to tranſport, for otherwiſe it muſt be a vaine and frivolous clauſe which is not to be preſumed in an Act of Parliament, or it muſt be contradictory and repugnant to the former part of the Act, which muſt not be ſo underſtood, for an Act of Parliament, is to be conſtrued, that all parts thereof muſt ſtand together.

Now no man can make any interpretation of this latter part of the Act, ſo as to ſtand with the former, and not to be contradictory, but it muſt be underſtood, that ſuch and ſuch Cuſtome ſhall be paid, where Licenſe is obtained from the King, which doth prove beſides, what is formerly mentioned, that within this very law now in force, which doth prohibite Tranſportation, the King may licenſe to Tranſport.

And then admitting that there were not ſuch a countenance of licencing within thoſe Statutes. It is conceived that if an act of Parliament doe prohibit a thing to be done, upon ſuch a penalty or ſuch a forfeiture to the King, the King by the Law may diſpence with that forfeiture to himſelfe, and licenſe a man to doe that thing, when as by the doing thereof there is only a forfeiture to himſelfe.

Then it is to be obſerved that this is not a licence that doth trench to the overthrow of the Act of Parliament that prohibits tranſportation, for it is not to tranſport any Leather but Calves skins, and not as many as he pleaſeth; but he is tyed to his proportion, *viz.* 18000. Dickers in 21 yeers which cannot tend to the avoiding of the act of Parliament, or to the publique prejudice of the Kingdome, *So much for the legality.*

Admitting this licence were illegall, yet under ſuch licences, there hath been liberty given to tranſport by the ſpace of 40 years, and Merchants have during all that time, under ſuch licences bought and tranſported, and there hath been no prohibition to the contrary, but onely the late order by the Houſe of Commons.

The Merchants bought the Calves skins in queſtion before that Order, and they look't upon the precedent practice of others for ſo many yeares.

They knew not, nor doe know that the licence under which they bought was or is illegall, and it were hard to ſuppoſe that they being Merchants, and ſome of them ſtrangers born, ſhould take notice whether the licence were legall or not, or to ſuppoſe that they ſhould buy under it, at their own perills, when it hath had the countenance of Law (if not lawfull) by ſo many years uſage.

The skins that theſe Merchants have ſhipped and provided for tranſportation are not Calves skins, and ſo not within the compaſſe of the licence, or ſo great Calveskins, as are not within the intention of the licence or act of Parliament.

They muſt be Calves skins or Hides, for the law takes notice of no skins mean between a Hide and Calves skins and that appears by the Statute of 18 *Eliz.* that provides that ſo much Cuſtom ſhall be paid for a Hide and ſo much for Calves skins. If Hides, the Merchants doe acknowledge there is no licence to tranſport them.

If they are not Hides, they doe conceive they muſt be Calves skins; for there is no mean, and then within the words and intention of the act of Parliament and Licence.

There is no proportion of bigneſſe, or weight, ſet upon ſuch Calves skins as may be tranſported either in the licence or act of Parliament, but generally Calves skins, ſo that it cannot be ſaid but that if they be Calves skins, they are within the intention of the licence and Statute.

To prove they are Calves skins.

1 Before they were ſhipped, they were viſited and told by the ſworn officers and in their opinion were Calves skins.

2 The packer of them being of the ſame trade with thoſe that complaine, namely a Shoemaker did allow and approve of them to be Calves skins.

3 Upon the view of ſome of the biggeſt ſort before the Committee, and examination of ſeverall witneſſes, Butchers, Tanners, and the Shoemakers themſelves, they did all prove they were but Calves skins, and not Hides.

And if it be conceived notwithſtanding that they are Hides and not Calve skins: Let the Shoemaker enforme againſt, or ſue the Merchants upon the Statute for tranſportation of Hides, and if it ſhall fall out to be ſo, they will incurre the whole penalties of the Law.

If they be not Hides, yet they are Calves ſkins of that bigneſſe and largeneſſe, that they are as uſefull as Hides.

It is not denied but it may be inconvenient to carry over Calves skins of that bigneſſe, and it may be neceſſary to make a law for the prohibition of it; but the queſtion now only is, whether the Merchants have done any thing but what is warranted by the Licence and the Law, which if they have not done there is no reaſon to make ſtay of their goods.

And the rather for that the goods, as they are now packed up and Shipped will within a very ſhort time periſh and ſpoile, if ſome courſe be not taken with them.

And the Merchants doe deſire that either they may have liberty to carry thoſe that they have bought, or if the Shoemakers think them too big, if they will give the Merchants ſo much as they coſt them and the charges they have been put to in ſhipping of them, and preparing of them for tranſportation, they are very willing the Shoemakers ſhall have them.

Reaſons humbly Propoſed to

The High Court of PARLIAMENT,

Againſt the Reviving *The Act for Tranſportation of* LEATHER.

I. FOR that all the tanned Leather in all former Ages was manufactured in *England* is moſt certain, in that in all thoſe times it cannot be made to appear, that any was loſt for want of the manufacturing thereof; as alſo by all the good and ſucceſſive Laws, and their ſeveral and ſevere Penalties againſt the Exportation thereof: Wool and Leather being always eſteemed of the ſame import to this Nation.

II. For that the time wherein this Act was obtained, was immediately after the Sickneſs and Fire, and during the *Dutch* War; by all which Trade at home and Traffick abroad was obſtructed by thoſe diſmal and diſtracting Viſitations, which produced a general decay and deadneſs of all Trades, as well as thoſe of the Manufactures of Leather; all Commodities at that time as well as thoſe of Leather, became reaſonable, but are ſince grown dearer; and ſo would Leather without Tranſportation as well as they.

III. For that ſince this Act of Tranſportation hath not in above ſeven years Experience effected that for which it was intended; to wit, the Increaſe of the Price of raw Hides and Bark, thereby increaſing the value of Rents, and encouraging the Breed of Cattel: For raw Hides and Bark were that ſeven years cheaper than in the ſeven years preceeding the ſaid Liberty. The Reaſon was, becauſe the ſelf-ended Tanner (as appears by their own Reaſons) converted that to his Private Advantage, which he pretended, and the Wiſdom of Parliament intended for Publick Good; for had he allowed more time and Bark to his Leather, both Bark and Leather had born a better price than in all that time it did.

IV. For that it did in that ſeven years looſe two parts in three of the Exportation of Shoos, and ſo conſequently of all other Leathern Manufactures, as appears by Certificate from the Cuſtom-houſe-Book of *London*: And it is not the loſs of the Shoe-maker, Sadler, Girdler, Belt maker, Coach-maker, Harneſs-maker, Currier, Pattin-maker, and other Artificers alone; but alſo of ſeveral other Trades and Perſons that have relation to and maintenance from the manufacturing of Leather. For undoubtedly if this Bill paſſes, it will diſemploy and thereby impoveriſh, if not wholly ruin more then 100000 Families, and conſtrain many of his Majeſties Subjects to follow after the Leather, and leave the Body of the Beaſt behind: So that what will be (if ought ſo be) gained by the Hide will be nine times loſt in the Fleſh thereof. A very unlikely [illegible] encourage the Breed of Cattel, and increaſe the value of Rents [illegible] de is but the tenth part of the value of the Beaſt, and the raiſing o[illegible] at one without the other nine parts, it is humbly conceived, will but very little conduce to the encouragement of the Breed of Cattel, and the increaſe of the value of Rents.

V. For that it is moſt apparent, that every 100 *l.* worth of Leather tranſported unmanufactured is 200 *l.* loſs to this Kingdom; and we cannot by any of their Reaſons yet find how this moſt evident loſs is repaired or made good to this Nation.

Object. *Will the Advantage of Tranſporting all Leather manufactured balance the Advantage of that which was ſent away unmanufactured, and that manufactured?*

Anſw. Yes and more: For if 100 *l.* in Leather will make 300 *l.* when manufactured and ſo exported, as is evident it will; then the more Leather ſent away manufactured muſt be to that proportion advantagious to the Kingdom: For if one third gains treble by the manufacturing thereof, two thirds or the whole muſt do the ſame.

VI. For that if Leathers be ſent over unwrought, and our Manufactors and Manufactories ſettle beyond the Sea, and thereby tranſplant the Market and conſumption thereof thither; whether it may be eaſily reduceable afterwards? If not, what an irreparable loſs and damage to the Kingdom it may prove?

Object. *That before the 14. of the King, Leather was not Prohibited to* Scotland *and his Majeſties Iſlands; and that under that pretence it was ſent to all Foreign parts.*

Anſw. We have had much more by far imported from *Ireland* and *Scotland*, both in tanned Leather and raw Hides, which were tanned here and manufactured, than ever was ſuppoſed to be exported under that pretence: beſides thoſe vaſt and infinite quantities of *Ruſſia*, *Jamaica*, *India* Hides and others that have been Manufactured here.

Object. *That ſhould Exportation ceaſe, would it not advance the price of Leather in* Ireland, *and leſſen the price of Leather here?*

Anſw. (1.) That *Ireland* did ever Export Leather and Raw Hides, and they can do no more in point of Exportation of Leather than they hitherto have done. For ſince the expiration of that Act, ſeveral conſiderable quantities of *Iriſh* Leather have been Imported here and ſold at a lower Rate than our *Engliſh* Leather, by three half pence or two pence *per* pound.

(2.) That notwithſtanding *Ireland*'s Exportation of Leather, yet we have taken great quantities both of raw Hides and tanned Leather from thence; and their ſending their Leather abroad did never yet hinder, but that here ever was the chief Market and Conſumption of all raw Hides and tanned Leather, and for many Ages hath ſo continued.

(3.) That *Iriſh* Leather is not at all proper for many uſes beyond Sea; ſo that if they have not our Leather, they muſt have it in our *Engliſh* Manufactures, as hath appeared ſince the Expiration of that Act, for many hundred dozen of Shoos, and conſiderable quantities of Boots have been ſold for Exportation, (which could not be Sold in the time of Exportation of Leather) to the great encouragement of the poor Manufacturers.

VII. Conſidering the very few that will gain thereby; namely, a few *French* Merchants and other Ingroſſers of Leather; and the many thouſands that will be undone thereby (in the words of the Tanners in their own printed Reaſons) it is altogether unreaſonable, that the conveniency of a few ſhould be an occaſion of ſo great loſs and Damage to the whole Kingdom in general, and the many thouſands of Artificers and others in particular.

VIII. The Tanners in their printed Reaſons preſented to this Honourable Houſe the laſt Seſſion thereof, did then enumerate the ſad Evils and Miſchiefs this Nation might be ſubject to, in caſe Liberty was granted to a general buying and retailing thereof.

As 1. *The ſaid Offence tends greatly to the abuſe of the Kings Subjects in general; for that thereby much Leather inſufficiently tanned hath been and may be put into and vended in Wares made of Leather; whereby the Kings Subjects have been, are and may be greatly deceived and injured.* And this is moſt certainly one of the greateſt Reaſons why the price of Bark was not raiſed: For had they, as they by Law ought, ſufficiently tanned all the Leather Exported, it would have conſumed as much more Bark as it did; the moſt genuin and beneficial way to raiſe the price of Bark.

Theſe ſad Evils they farther branch out in three particulars: as,

1. *In the Price thereof: It not being worth half ſo much, nor will it do half the Service as when it is good.* A moſt undeniable Truth.
2. *In their Healths: For that Boots and Shoos made of ſuch Leather cannot but take in wet, whereby many have and may get Colds and Sickneſs, to their great Grief and Loſs; yea to the peril of their Lives.*
3. *The oftner Leather is bought and ſold before it be made into dearer the Kings Subjects muſt pay for the ſame.*

Yet now theſe perſons minds are altered; for neither the Inſufficiency and Deceitfulneſs of Leather, nor the endangering mens Healths and Lives, nor the unneceſſary Exaction upon his Majeſties Subjects are ſo much as mentioned in their printed Reaſons now preſented to your Honours; a great Argument of their deſigning more their own Intereſt than the Publick Good: For if it was ſo hurtful and dangerous the laſt Seſſion of Parliament, it is very ſtrange it ſhould not be the ſame now.

IX. They did further enumerate the ſad Conſequence that would unavoidably follow a Publick Liberty of buying and ſelling, in eleven particulars relating to the Manfacture and Manufactors of Leather, to which we humbly refer your Honours; only further add, that if this Bill of Tranſportation and Liberty to buy and ſell it again be paſſed, it will unavoidably defeat all that good intended to this Kingdom by the Searching and Sealing of Leather; for if it be lawful for any perſon to ſell in any leſs quantity than one Hide, Side or Skin, then any Tanner may half tan his Leather, and cut it into pieces, and ſo retail it; and it being ſo cut, it is altogether impoſſible to diſtinguiſh whether ſearched and ſealed or not: And if we have, as the Tanners confeſs in their Reaſons we have, ſo much very bad Leather, when the Law is ſo ſevere in the Penalties againſt it; what ſhall we have when the force of that Law is defeated, and an opportunity given them to do it uncontrolably, we humbly refer to your Honours.

X. For that the Exporting of our Leather unmanufactured, and returning the ſame to us manufactured in Boots, Shoos and other Manufactures may be eaſily proved; and the carrying away all our beſt Calves Leather, in lieu whereof they return us their rotten traſhy Skins they cannot uſe; but above all and the moſt pernicious is the ſending away the beſt of our *Engliſh* Leather, and leaving the worſt to be for the uſe of this Nation: A thing ſo inconſiſtent with the Publick Good of this Nation, as almoſt any thing elſe whatſoever.

XI. For that ſeven years your Honors did experience that your Rents have not riſe, nor your Bark and raw Hides ſold dearer, nor that Publick Good your Honors intended hath been effected; but on the contrary 100000 Families impoveriſhed, and Foreign Subjects enriched thereby, the ſending our beſt Leather in ſtead of the worſt; We humbly pray the next ſeven years experience, whether the Manufactors of Leather in *England* cannot now, as well as they ever did for above five hundred years together, work and vend in made-Wares all the Leather of *England*.

Laſtly, That ſince the Expiration of this Act, raw Hides have riſen very conſiderably, and tan'd at the leaſt four ſhillings in a Hide, as the Regiſter of *Leaden-Hall London*, will make appear if examined.

The Comittee sits today

PROPOSALS

TO

The Honourable Houſe of Commons,

Humbly offered and preſented, for the Laying

A Tax upon Raw Hides, &c.

By *RICHARD ORGAN.*

I. THE ſaid *Richard Organ*, Humbly Propoſes that a Duty be laid upon Raw-Hides, *&c.* and not upon Tann'd Leather, becauſe the Charges in Collecting the ſaid Duty will be leſs, and the Tanners and Fell-Mongers will be only, or chiefly concern'd to pay it, who have long ſince raiſed their Commodities, upon hearing a Tax would be laid upon them, as much as if ſuch Tax were already laid: And by this means ſome of them have got conſiderable Eſtates.

II. That the Duty to be laid upon Raw-Hides, *&c.* continue as long as that of the Hackney Coaches, and that the Duty to be laid upon Soap be joyn'd with it, which will be a Fund for a Million and an half of Mony, and that the Duties be as follows:

III. Every Cow, Ox, Bull, Steer and Heifer Hide, ſold under 20 *s.* or for 20 *s.* and no more, to any Tanner or Fell-Monger, 2 *s.* Duty ſhall be paid to the King by ſuch Tanner or Fell-Monger, or other Perſon who ſhall buy the ſame; and all ſuch Hides as come to more than Twenty Shillings, Three Shillings Duty ſhall be laid upon them.

IV. Every Calves Skin Sixpence Duty, every Sheeps Skin a Penny, every Lambs Skin a Halfpenny.

V. All Bucks Skins, Goat Skins, and all Foreign Leather to be Tax'd as ſhall to the Honourable Houſe appear moſt fit and convenient.

That in order to Collect this Duty there be an Office appointed at *Leaden-Hall*, and that Two Pence *per* Pound be allowed to the ſeveral Collectors, and One Penny *per* Pound to the Receiver General; and that this Office extend to all Places within the Bills of Mortality.

That this Duty be Collected in all other Parts and Places of this Kingdom, by the Clerk of the ſeveral Markets, with the Allowances aforeſaid; and that an Office be appointed in every City, to receive ſuch Monies by them Collected.

That all Hides, Skins, *&c.* ſo bought be entred, and a Penalty as this Honourable Houſe ſhall think fit, be laid upon all Perſons who ſhall buy ſuch Raw-Hides, *&c.* without entring the ſame, and Paying the Duties aforeſaid.

The Benefit of ſuch Duties may appear by this, that there are great quantities of Leather Exported, and particularly Calves Skins. The King hath but a Shilling Duty for every Hundred Weight of them now, but hereby the Duty will ariſe to Six Shillings a Dozen.

Richard Organ's

PROPOSALS

1695.

REASONS *humbly offered to the Conſideration of the Honourable the Knights, Citizens, and Burgeſſes of* Great Britain *in Parliament Aſſembled, for a Duty on Raw Hides and Raw Skins.*

WHereas upon *Thurſday* the 29th of *March* laſt, a Duty was Voted on all Hides and Skins whatſoever, being the Growth of *Great Britain*, or Imported into the ſame.

It's humbly ſubmitted to the Conſideration of this Honourable Houſe, That the Duty be laid on Raw Hides and Raw Skins that ſhall be Imported, which Duty may be Collected at the Cuſtom-Houſe without any Additional Charge, And on the Raw Hides and Raw Skins, (being the Growth of *Great Britain*,) at the Publick Market while the Hair or Wooll is on; then every Species will be known to the proper Officer, and thereby prevent Frauds.

All Hides and Skins will then bear, and be ſubject to pay the Duty, which will be more eaſily Collected, and with leſs Charge, and bring a much larger Revenue to the Crown; for when the Hair or Wooll is off, the Intrinſick Value of many Thouſand Skins are ſo Inconſiderable, that they muſt be Deſtroyed, whereby a great Number of Poor Families will want Imployment, who are now Imployed in Working the ſame.

Therefore not out of any Deſign to obſtruct the Publick Welfare, but to farther the Good and Wiſe Intentions of this Honourable Houſe, it's humbly apprehended, That if the Duty be laid on Raw Hides and Raw Skins, it will be moſt Advantageous to the Crown, and moſt Eaſie and Equal to the Subject.

REASONS

Humbly offered to this Honourable Houſe for a Duty on *Raw Hides* and *Raw Skins*.

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PROPOSAL

Humbly offered to 158

The Honourable Houſe of Commons,

By John Goodwin, Gent.

Concerning the Management of the Duty on Leather.

WHereas I have lately preſented to this Honourable Houſe, a Method for Improving the Management of the Duty on *Leather*, which would be a Guide to the Commiſſioners, for a certain Inſtruction to their Officers, and more Equal and Grateful to the Traders, in the Collecting thereof, which is ſuppoſed to be the chief Cauſe of the ſeveral Petitions and Complaints againſt it; Otherwiſe it muſt be a Combination amongſt the Traders, as generally ſuſpected, for the Publick viſibly Pays more by the Riſe of the Commodities, than the whole Duty amounts to in every Particular: And it is very certain, what hath been ſo Granted, and is ſo Paid, as aforeſaid, was deſigned for the Uſe and Service of His Majeſty and the Government, and not to be blindly Loſt or Swallow'd up in the Collecting. And I humbly refer to this Honourable Houſe, whether ſuch Perſons who firſt propoſed, and ſince ſtrove to carry and keep this Duty in that dark Notion of *Ad Valorem*, might not have a Proſpect of ſome Advantage thereby; for the Method propoſed wants no other Act than the Preſent, and that Improving the Management may appear no ſingle Notion, I humbly offer, with Permiſſion, to name to this Honourable Houſe Perſons of anſwerable Worth and Security, who are ready to Farm this Duty at Twenty Thouſand Pounds *per Annum*, more than ſhall appear by the preſent Management to be made thereof: All which is humbly preſented as an Addition to my former Endeavours on the ſame Subject, with all due Submiſſion.

PROPOSAL

Humbly offered to

The Honourable House of Commons,

By John Goodwin, Gent.

A Clauſe in the Act of Parliament for laying a Duty on *Leather* and *Skins.*

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AND it is hereby further Declared and Enacted, That ſo much of the ſaid Sum of Five Hundred ſixty four thouſand ſeven hundred Pounds, and the Intereſt thereof, as the ſaid Duties upon Leather hereby granted for the ſaid Term of Three Years, ſhall fall ſhort, or be Deficient to Pay, ſhall be Payable, and be Paid and Satisfied unto the reſpective Lenders thereof, their Executors, Adminiſtrators or Aſſigns, out of any the next Aids or Supplies to be granted to His Majeſty in Parliament after the end of the ſaid Three Years, and ſhall be Transferred and Transferrable thereunto, as ſoon as any ſuch Aid or Supply ſhall be granted.

☞ *Note*, The preſent Land-Tax is the firſt Aid or Supply ſince the Expiration of the Leather Act.

THE

Grievous CASE

Without a Parallel.

IN the Sixth and Seventh Yeats of His Majeſty's Reign a Duty was laid on Coals and Culm, Stone, Glaſs and Earthern Wares for Five Years by Act of Parliament, and 564,700 *l.* borrow'd on Credit thereof at 7 *l. per Cent.* which Security was ſufficient fully to Anſwer the ſaid Sum and Intereſt.

The very next Seſſion of Parliament all the ſaid Duties were taken away from the Lenders of the Money; whereby they were deprived of their Security and Property.

The Third Seſſion of Parliament a Duty was laid on Leather and Skins for Three Years to repay the Debt and Intereſt, and the Perſons who lent the Money did then by Petition, and at the Par of the *Honourable Houſe of Commons*, ſet forth the Inſufficiency of the Duties on Leather and Skins for Diſcharging thereof in the Time limited, and were thereupon granted a firm Enacting Clauſe, *ut ſupra.*

The Fourth Seſſion of Parliament a Duty was laid on Coals and Culm again to borrow 500000 *l.* more at 8 *l. per Cent.* and the Perſons who firſt Lent their Money thereon did then Petition the Honourable *Houſe of Commons*, praying to be reſtored to their firſt Security, but their Petition would not be received.

The Duties on Leather and Skins did expire the 20th of *April*, 1700. there ſtill remaining upwards of Five hundred thouſand Pounds Principal, and about Eighteen Months Intereſt due to the Lenders of the Money, who have nothing now left but *Wood and Paper for Gold and Silver*, beſides the moſt reaſonable Hopes, and Prayers that the Honourable *Houſe of Commons* will in purſuance of the aforeſaid Enacted Clauſe, and the Juſt Right of the People that Lent their Money, be pleaſed to Transfer this Debt to the preſent Aid granted to His Majeſty, which is the firſt Aid or Supply given ſince the Expiration of the Leather Act. Unleſs the Honourable Houſe ſhall think fit to make ſome other *Effectual Proviſion* this Seſſion for Repayment of the ſaid Juſt Debt and Intereſt; which will very much contribute to the raiſing of Publick Credit.

Grievous CASE

Without a Parallel.

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To the High Court of Parliament,

Some Conſiderations humbly propoſed before the Reviving of the Acts for Tranſporting of Leather. 160

1. THat there was no Act for tranſporting of Leather from the Reign of *Philip* and *Mary*, till the 20th of King *Charles* II. but all Wares for the Plantations and other places were made up here, and ſo tranſported; not only with our own Leather, but great quantities of *Iriſh* Leather, of which now there comes none hither.

2. That in the 14th of King *Charles* II. the Parliament taking notice of the exceſſive Rates of Tanned Leather, and how prejudicial it proved to the Poor, made an Act for prohibiting the Tranſportation thereof, under very ſevere Penalties.

3. That Leather is now much dearer than it was at that time, and Calves-Skins near double the Price; and it is humbly conceived, that the paſſing an Act to tranſport Leather, never was intended to bring it to an extreme.

4. That ſo low a Duty as 12 *d. per* hundred weight upon all Leather exported was then for the Encouragement of Exportation, but now Leather is advanced to a third part more, and ſome to double the Price: It doth appear that Foreigners cannot well be without our Leather, whatever Price it is at; and we conceive it very unreaſonable there ſhould be a leſs Duty upon it for Exportation, than upon Leather wrought up into made Wares and ſo exported, which is 4 *s.* and 8 *d. per* hundred; Inaſmuch as one hundred weight of wrought Wares is of more Profit when exported, than five hundred weight unwrought.

5. That in the time of Prohibition, when only Skins of 36 pound *per* dozen were permitted to be tranſported, and no Backs and Hides, nor Skins of the largeſt ſize ſuffered to go, as now they are, then thoſe Skins tranſported paid no leſs a Duty than 7 *s* 6 *d. per* hundred weight, which was 2 *s.* 10 *d.* more *per* hundred weight than the wrought Ware then paid, but now is 3 *s.* 6 *d.* leſs, which is very prejudicial to the Tranſportation of wrought Wares.

The CASE of the *TANNERS*, which uſe *Leaden-Hall-Market*, on Behalf of themſelves and others, moſt Humbly Offered to the Serious Conſideration of the Right Honourable the Knights, Burgeſſes, and Commons, in Parliament Aſſembled.

I. THAT the price of Leather, in general, is fallen above one third part of what it ſold for, in the Year Ninety Seven, when the late Duty was laid thereon; and ſince that time *Ireland* hath greatly increaſed in Cattle, and conſequently in Hides and Tann'd Leather, with which they have, and ſtill do ſupply Foreign Markets at a cheaper Rate than we can do; by means whereof the Price of Tann'd Leather in this Kingdom is reduced very low.

II. It may be demonſtrated that a raw Hide, which coſt 10 *s.* will coſt 7 *s.* Tanning, and it will fetch no more at *Leaden-Hall* of the Merchant, (who is the Principal Buyer) than 4 *d.* or 4 *d.* ¼. *per* Pound: Now computing that the ſaid Hide, when Tann'd and Dried, may weigh from 44 to 46 Pound, it will not amount to 16 *s.* 6 *d.* which is ſhort of the Prime Coſt: By which it is manifeſtly evident, That if a Tax ſhould be laid upon Tann'd Leather, it will ruin the *Tanners*, or fall upon the raw Hides, and conſequently upon the Breeders and Feeders of Cattle, and upon Rent, and Value of Land.

III. It may be Objected, That neither *Ireland*, nor any other Foreign Country can ſupply the Merchant with ſuch ſubſtantial and thick Leather as this Kingdom can, and therefore of neceſſity the Trade will be kept at home. To which we anſwer, That it is not the Thickneſs or Strength of our Leather, which renders it acceptable in Foreign parts; for the thinner and ſmaller ſort of Hides are always demanded, and will fetch the beſt Price abroad.

IV. The raw Hides, which were bought up laſt Summer and this Winter were laid in at a dear rate in hopes of a free Currency of Trade, of which we have now no Proſpect; and ſhould a Duty be laid upon Tann'd Leather, more eſpecially upon our preſent Stocks, it would equally ſink the Value thereof.

V. It may be proved by the Regiſtry-Books at *Leaden-Hall*, That the late Duty did not raiſe the Value of Tann'd Leather; for when the Duty was laid, Leather was ſold for 7 *d.* ¾. and 8 *d. per* Pound; but after that it continually declined, inſomuch that before the Expiration of the Statute it fell to 5 *d.* ¼. *per* Pound.

THE CASE OF THE TANNERS.

THE CASE OF THE Leather - Sellers,

Humbly offered to the Conſideration of the Honourable the Knights, Citizens and Burgeſſes of *Great-Britain*, in Parliament Aſſembled.

I. THAT if the Stock of Leather, in the Leather Sellers and Dreſſers Hands ſhould pay a Duty, they are not able to raiſe the Prices of Leather at this Time, when their Trade is ſo miſerably bad, and Money ſo very ſcarce, that the whole Duty they ſhall pay will be entirely their Loſs.

II. Since the Expectation of a Duty, the Currency of the Leather Trade is in a great Meaſure ſtopt, and the Traders in Leather will ſuffer Intolerable Hardſhips if they pay a Duty for their Stock in Hand; it will entirely ruin many of them and their Families, their Leather for the moſt part being bought upon Credit.

III. For whatever Duty is laid on Stock in Hand, no Advance can be made, as by ſad Experience was found, to the very great Loſs of the Traders in Leather, when they paid a Duty in the Year 1697, for Goods were as cheap after the Duty commenced as before.

IV. Great Part of their Stock in Hand are ſuch Goods as have had Miſcarriages in Dreſſing, and are the Refuge, Broken, Braided and Ordinary Skins, and have laid long by them, for which they have paid Taxes yearly; and many Skins thro' the Careleſneſs of the Butcher are not worth what the Dreſſing coſt; for by their ill Flawing and Cutting Holes in the Skins, very great Damages are done to the Leather Trade in general.

Therefore it's humbly hoped this Honourable Houſe will take the Premiſes into Serious Conſideration, and not add to ſo great a Burthen (as a Tax of Thirty-two Years is) a Duty upon their Stock in Hand, great Part of which they have had ſeveral Years by them, which will not ſell for near the Prime Coſt.

THE
Leather-Sellers
CASE.

To the Honourable the

House of Commons:

The CASE *of the* Leather-sellers *in and about the City of* London, *on Behalf of themselves, and others of the same Trade elsewhere,*

HUMBLY SHEWETH,

I. THAT whereas there is a Clause added to the Bill for laying a Duty upon *Leather*, of 12 Pound 10 Shilling *per Cent.* on Stock in Hand, 'twill be a great Hardship on them, by reason a great Part of their Stock now by them is fallen above 30 *per Cent.* by which the Stocks now in Hand are much lessened and impaired.

II. At the Expiration of this intended *Act*, the Stock then in their Hands having paid the Duty of 15 *per Cent.* will unavoidably be so much Loss to them: Which will not be the Case of the Tanners and Leather-dressers, for that they do not pay the Duty till they sell their Commodities.

III. Whereas it is suggested to this *Honourable House*, That great Quantities of Leather have been lately bought up by the Leather-sellers, to avoid the Duty; It is ready to be proved, if this *Honourable House* shall think fit, That those Suggestions are wholly False and Groundless.

Therefore we hope this Honourable House *will Mitigate the Great Duty on Stock in our Hands.*

THE CASE OF THE Kid-Skin *DRESSERS*,

Humbly offered to the Conſideration of the Honourable the Knights, Citizens, and Burgeſſes of *Great Britain*, in Parliament Aſſembled.

WITH humble Submiſſion, they beg Leave to lay before this Honourable Houſe a Caſe in the Votes of Parliament, Printed the 2d of *April*, 1711, relating to the Duty intended to be laid on Hides and Skins, the Product of this Kingdom, and Imported into the ſame. In the 28th Reſolution of the ſaid Votes it is there reſolv'd, That a Duty be laid upon all Sheep-Skins and Lamb-Skins to be Dreſt in Allum, Salt, *&c.* in *Great Britain*, (except Murrin-Skins,) be after the Rate of One Halfpeny *per* Pound Weight Averdupois. And in the 34th Reſolution it is reſolv'd, That the Duty to be laid upon all Sheep-Skins and Lamb-Skins Dreſt in Oil, in *Great Britain*, be after the Rate of One Peny *per* Pound Weight. And in the 25th Reſolution it is reſolv'd, That the Duty to be laid on all Kid-Skins, which ſhall be Tawed in *Great Britain*, except ſuch as paid the full Duty on the Importation, be 1 *s. per* Dozen, and after that Rate.

With humble Submiſſion it cannot be ſuppoſed the Rates abovementioned are proportionable, for the Sheep-Skins and Lamb-Skins Dreſt in Allum, Salt, *&c.* at One Halfpeny *per* Pound Weight, will come much ſhort of the Real Value in the Duty of what Kid-Skins are charged at, and conſequently will throw the Kid-Skins out of uſe, and cauſe the Kid-Skin Dreſſers to be very great Sufferers, and in a great Meaſure it will be the Ruin of the Kid-Skin Manufacture; by which Manufacture a great many Poor Families get their Bread.

And in the 34th Reſolution, Oil Sheep-Skins, and Oil Lamb-Skins, are charged at 1 *d. per* Pound Weight; with like Submiſſion, Oil Sheep-Skins and Oil Lamb-Skins are of a greater Value *per* Hundred than Kid-Skins are one with another when Tawed.

Therefore as this ſingle Hardſhip lyes ſo very heavy upon them, they deſire your Honours Conſideration, and to be allow'd to pay for Tawed Kid-Skins by Weight (except ſuch as paid the full Duty on the Importation) as Sheep-Skins and Lamb-Skins Dreſt in Allum, Salt, *&c*, or as Sheep-Skins and Lamb-Skins Dreſt in Oil.

Without which Conſideration and Allowance they and their Families muſt be very great Sufferers, and their Trade entirely Loſt.

THE CASE OF THE Kid-Skin Dreſſers.

An Humble REPRESENTATION FROM

The Tanners, Skinners, and Dreſſers of Leather in North-Britain, *concerning the intended Duties upon Tann'd Hydes, and Dreſs'd Leather, that may be Tann'd and Dreſs'd in* North Britain.

IT's obvious to ſuch as know the preſent State of *Scotland*, That altho' our Land-Tax, in proportion to the *Engliſh* 4 *s.* in the Pound, be proportionable to one fortieth Part, yet Taxes upon Conſumpt will be proportionable to one ninth Part; the Subjects of *Scotland* being at leaſt a ninth, if not a ſeventh Part of the Subjects of *Britain*: Beſides, our ordinary Farmers will have as many Servants upon their Farms of 20 *l. Sterling* a Year, as a Farmer in *England* will have upon what pays 100 *l. Sterling* a Year; and therefore all Taxes upon Conſumpt, if poſſible, ſhould be prevented, becauſe they more unequally affect us, than they do the Subjects of *South-Britain*.

But if that cannot be done, then the Subject, upon which the Tax is impoſed, ſhould be conſidered, ſo as it be not grievous to any of Her Majeſty's Subjects: And as to the Hydes tann'd in *Scotland*, it's certain that they are not the one Half ſo valuable, as Hydes tann'd in *England*.

There are very few *Scots* Hydes tann'd that can be made uſe of as Bend Leather; becauſe the Cattle being of a ſmall Size, the beſt of their Hydes are only made uſe of in making Pumps, or Single-ſole Shoos, (as we call them) which moſt part of the *Highlanders*, common Farmers, and their Servants wear for ordinary Uſe; and the Pound of ſuch Leather is not worth above Four Pence; whereas the *Engliſh* Bend Leather, is Eight Pence at leaſt, and now above that Price; ſo it were a great Inequality to put that Duty upon Leather worth 30 or 40 Shillings *per* Hundred, that is impoſed upon Leather worth 3 or 4 Pound *Sterling per* Hundred.

Next it is to be conſidered, That moſt of our Hydes are tann'd and dreſs'd for Upper Leathers, and applyed to the ſame Uſe, that Calf Skins are in *South Britain*; and the Duty ſhould be conſidered accordingly.

It is alſo to be conſidered, What is meant by Pieces and Parts of Skins, as mentioned in the Votes N° 91, for altho' a Piece of Leather, which may be a 4th or 5th Part of a Skin, may pay the Tax, yet Excreſſence of Skins which are cut off, and fit for no Uſe, but making of Size, and Shavings of Leather, which are as little uſeful, it's hoped will not be conſidered as falling under that Part of the Act.

As to the Horſe Hydes, It is to be conſidered that the Duty mentioned by the Votes, is equal at leaſt to the Value of a Horſe Hyde in *Scotland*, which is bought at one Shilling at higheſt.

As to all other Hydes dreſt with Alom and Salt, for which a Duty of two Shillings is agreed to, It is to be conſidered, that a *Scots* Hyde is not above the third Part of the Weight or Value of an *Engliſh* Hyde; ſo in this Article there would be a palpable Inequality.

The Impoſition upon *Buck* and *Doe* Skins, is alſo unequal as to *Scotland*, becauſe moſt of our *Buck* and *Doe* Skins are Wild, themſelves Lean, and their Skins

Skins full of Ticks, or (as we call them) Warbles, whereas moſt of the *Buck* and *Doe* of *England* are in Parks, and Incloſures, and are at leaſt double of the Value, of what are dreſt here.

As to the Duty on *Kids* Skins, if the Value of the *Kids* be conſidered, reckoning the good and bad together in *Scotland*, they are not worth the Tax at the Prime Coſt, and not worth a Fourth Part of the *Kid* imported in *South Britain*.

It ſhould be ſeriouſly conſidered, at what Time the Duties to be Levied are to be pay'd, whether immediately after Tanning, and Finiſhing, or only when Sold: It's thought, it would be moſt our Advantage to have the Duties levied when the Goods are ſold: For if the proper Officers take up the Number and Weight, either from the Tanners or Curriers: Theſe are anſwerable for the Duty, and muſt either pay it, or ſhow their Dreſt and Tann'd Leather upon Hand unſold.

For the Eaſe of Her Majeſties Subjects, Salt imported pays only the Duty Six Months after it's taken out of the Sellers for uſe, and the Merchant Importer may take out 40 Buſhels at a Time, which is a great Eaſe; if the like be not allowed with regard to the Tax on Leather, the Tanner, Currier, or Dreſſer will be at a great Advance, when perhaps his Goods may lie long upon his Hand unſold.

There is one Thing more which occurs, *viz.* That if the Hydes or Dreſt Leather be exported, and the Duties pay'd, the Exporter ſhould have a Draw-back equal to the Duty: But in Caſe the Hydes or Dreſt Leather do only Pay when ſold, then there is no Neceſſity of mentioning this laſt Article, becauſe after Account is taken of what is Dreſt or Tann'd, the Dreſſer or Tanner, may be diſcharged, if by a proper Certificate he make it appear, that what he had Dreſt or Tann'd was exported.

As there are great Quantities of Dreſt White Leather ſent by Sea from *North Britain* to *London:* It is a hardſhip upon the Subjects to be obliged to pay the Tax here for Leather ſo tranſported, becauſe thereby their Riſque is increas'd in Proportion to the Tax, and it's the rather reckon'd a hardſhip, becauſe the Remedy is eaſie by collecting the ſame at *London*, when diſcharged there.

All which is humbly ſubmitted to the Honourable Houſe of Commons.

An Humble

REPRESENTATION

From the *Tanners*, *Skinners* and *Dreſſers* of *Leather* in *North-Britain*, concerning the intended Duties upon *Tann'd Hydes* and *Dreſt Leather*, that may be *Tann'd* and *Dreſt* there.

REASONS

Humbly Offered to the

High Court of PARLIAMENT:

SHEWING

(If Their Honours think fit to lay a Duty upon Leather) what Loſs the King will ſuſtain in His preſent Cuſtoms, and how prejudicial it will be to all Artificers in the Kingdom uſing the cutting of Leather, if leave be given to the Merchant to draw back the New Duty at the Cuſtom-Houſe, *of that which ſhall be Exported Unwrought.*

THAT all Leather now Exported Unwrought, payes a Duty but of 12 *d. per* Hundred, and has formerly paid 7 *s.* 6*d. per* Hundred. And that which is now made up into Wares payes 4 *s.* and 8 *d. per* Hundred.

If a Duty be laid upon all Leather that is Wrought up here, and none upon that which is Exported (ſave the preſent Duty) the Merchants will Sell their Leather Abroad, Cheaper than the Artificers can Buy it at Home; and the Artificers will be prevented from Exporting their Wrought Wares abroad.

By this meanes the Merchants will Buy up all the beſt of the Leather to ſend beyond Sea, and the worſt muſt be Wrought up at Home: Forreigners will be Incouraged to make up our Leather into Wares abroad, our owne Artificers Diſcouraged at home, and for want of Imployment many Thouſands of them muſt Starve.

The Merchants in wetting their Leather, in Packing up to Tranſport, will make it weigh a Fifth part more than it doth when bought Dry of the Tanner, ſo that in the drawing back of the Duty, the King will pay a Fifth Part more than he Receives, which cannot be well Diſcovered when the Leather is ſo Packed.

Upon theſe Conſiderations, it is Humbly Hoped (That if a New Duty be laid) your Honours will not think fit that the Merchant ſhall draw back upon the Exportation.

Skins full of Ticks, or (as we call them) Warbles, whereas moſt of the *Buck* and *Doe* of *England* are in Parks, and Incloſures, and are at leaſt double of the Value, of what are dreſt here.

As to the Duty on *Kids* Skins, if the Value of the *Kids* be conſidered, reckoning the good and bad together in *Scotland*, they are not worth the Tax at the Prime Coſt, and not worth a Fourth Part of the *Kid* imported in *South Britain*.

It ſhould be ſeriouſly conſidered, at what Time the Duties to be Levied are to be pay'd, whether immediately after Tanning, and Finiſhing, or only when Sold: It's thought, it would be moſt our Advantage to have the Duties levied when the Goods are ſold: For if the proper Officers take up the Number and Weight, either from the Tanners or Curriers: Theſe are anſwerable for the Duty, and muſt either pay it, or ſhow their Dreſt and Tann'd Leather upon Hand unſold.

For the Eaſe of Her Majeſties Subjects, Salt imported pays only the Duty Six Months after it's taken out of the Sellers for uſe, and the Merchant Importer may take out 40 Buſhels at a Time, which is a great Eaſe; if the like be not allowed with regard to the Tax on Leather, the Tanner, Currier, or Dreſſer will be at a great Advance, when perhaps his Goods may lie long upon his Hand unſold.

There is one Thing more which occurs, *viz.* That if the Hydes or Dreſt Leather be exported, and the Duties pay'd, the Exporter ſhould have a Draw-back equal to the Duty: But in Caſe the Hydes or Dreſt Leather do only Pay when ſold, then there is no Neceſſity of mentioning this laſt Article, becauſe after Account is taken of what is Dreſt or Tann'd, the Dreſſer or Tanner, may be diſcharged, if by a proper Certificate he make it appear, that what he had Dreſt or Tann'd was exported.

As there are great Quantities of Dreſt White Leather ſent by Sea from *North Britain* to *London:* It is a hardſhip upon the Subjects to be obliged to pay the Tax here for Leather ſo tranſported, becauſe thereby their Riſque is increas'd in Proportion to the Tax, and it's the rather reckon'd a hardſhip, becauſe the Remedy is eaſie by collecting the ſame at *London*, when diſcharged there.

All which is humbly ſubmitted to the Honourable Houſe of Commons.

An Humble

REPRESENTATION

From the *Tanners*, *Skinners* and *Dreſſers* of *Leather* in *North-Britain*, concerning the intended Duties upon *Tann'd Hydes* and *Dreſt Leather*, that may be *Tann'd* and *Dreſt* there.

816. m. 12
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REASONS

Humbly Offered to the

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Commons
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High Court of PARLIAMENT:

SHEWING

(If Their Honours think fit to lay a Duty upon Leather) what Loſs the King will ſuſtain in His preſent Cuſtoms, and how prejudicial it will be to all Artificers in the Kingdom uſing the cutting of Leather, if leave be given to the Merchant to draw back the New Duty at the Cuſtom-Houſe, *of that which ſhall be Exported Unwrought.*

THAT all Leather now Exported Unwrought, payes a Duty but of 12 *d. per* Hundred, and has formerly paid 7 *s.* 6*d. per* Hundred. And that which is now made up into Wares payes 4 *s.* and 8 *d. per* Hundred.

If a Duty be laid upon all Leather that is Wrought up here, and none upon that which is Exported (ſave the preſent Duty) the Merchants will Sell their Leather Abroad, Cheaper than the Artificers can Buy it at Home; and the Artificers will be prevented from Exporting their Wrought Wares abroad.

By this meanes the Merchants will Buy up all the beſt of the Leather to ſend beyond Sea, and the worſt muſt be Wrought up at Home: Forreigners will be Incouraged to make up our Leather into Wares abroad, our owne Artificers Diſcouraged at home, and for want of Imployment many Thouſands of them muſt Starve.

The Merchants in wetting their Leather, in Packing up to Tranſport, will make it weigh a Fifth part more than it doth when bought Dry of the Tanner, ſo that in the drawing back of the Duty, the King will pay a Fifth Part more than he Receives, which cannot be well Diſcovered when the Leather is ſo Packed.

Upon theſe Conſiderations, it is Humbly Hoped (That if a New Duty be laid) your Honours will not think fit that the Merchant ſhall draw back upon the Exportation.

REASONS

Humbly Offered to the

High Court of PARLIAMENT:

SHEWING

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REASONS

Humbly offered by the

Leather-Sellers

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K

OF THE

Cities of *London* and *Weſtminſter*, and Parts adjacent, to the Conſideration of the Honourable the Knights, Citizens, and Burgeſſes, of *Great Britain* in Parliament Aſſembled, againſt a Duty on Leather.

Imprimis. *Oſh*, *Buffelo*, *Elk*, and *Red Hides* from *Ruſſia*, do now pay near 20 *l. per Cent.* upon Importation, the greateſt part of them are uſed by the Army; and if a further Duty ſhould be laid thereon, it may cauſe that part of the Furniture to be ſupplied in *Holland*.

Buck and *Doe* Skins, with *Buffelo* and *Elk* Hides aforeſaid, being chiefly the Growth of her Majeſties Plantations in *America*, and *Cordevant* Skins from *Turky* and *Barbary* do alſo pay the like Duty.

The Hides and Skins aforeſaid are chiefly purchaſed with the Woollen Manufactory of this Kingdom; and ſhould a further Duty be laid on *Leather*, it will greatly diſcourage the Exportation of the Woollen Manufactory, and the Importation of the ſaid *Hides* and *Skins*, and leſſen the Revenue.

Nine Parts in Ten of the Deer Skins Imported are Dreſt in *England* with *Newfoundland* Oil, which pays a [illegible]t Duty, One Quarter of which Skins, when Dreſt, are not worth more than the Money paid for Freight, Preſent Duty, and the Dreſſing.

Sheep and *Lamb* Pelts being the Growth of *Great-Britain*, are of a very ſmall Value, yet do employ many Thouſands of Poor People in Dreſſing them into White *Leather* with Salt, Allum, *&c* one Fifth Part, when Dreſt, are not worth more than a Peny a Skin, and conſequently cannot be Dreſt into *Leather*; and if a Duty ſhould be laid thereon, muſt be the Ruin of a great Number of Poor Families, whoſe Livelihoods depend in working the ſame.

It may be objected, That if a Duty is laid on Leather, *the Traders therein will raiſe the Prizes in Proportion to the ſaid Duty.*

To which it is anſwered, That by reaſon of the Poverty of moſt of the Manufacturers of *Leather*, that whatever Duty is laid it may be proved will not raiſe the Prizes, as by Experience was found to the very great Loſs of the Dealers therein when the Duty was laid in the Year 1697; ſo that if a Duty be laid on *Leather*, it's humbly conceived that the Traders in it muſt be very great Sufferers, and many Families ruined thereby.

Therefore it is Humbly hoped that this Honourable Houſe will not lay a Duty on a Manufactory, which, next to the Woollen, more nearly concerns the Poorer Sort of People, than any other Manufactory in this Kingdom.

THE

Leather-Sellers

OF THE

Cities of *London* and *Weſtminſter*, and Parts adjacent,

Their REASONS againſt a Duty on Leather.

816. m

REASONS

Humbly offered by the

Spaniſh Leather-Dreſſers

OF

GREAT BRITAIN,

To the Conſideration of the Honourable the Knights, Citizens, and Burgeſſes, of *Great Britain* in Parliament Aſſembled, againſt a Duty on Leather.

THAT Goat-Skins, which they Dreſs after the manner of *Spaniſh* Leather, pay Duty from *Barbary*, *Norway*, *Ruſſia*, *&c.* more than 20 *l. per Cent.* upon Importation, an Additional Duty being laid ſince the late Tax on Leather.

Shumake, which comes from *Portugal*, and with which they Tan, is advanced to almoſt double the Price it was at when the ſaid Duty was laid.

And alſo the *Newland* Oil, and Dying Wares, pay a Great Duty, which are uſed in Dreſſing the ſaid Goods.

Notwithſtanding the Great Duties on Skins and Ingredients, with which they are Dreſt, yet the Price cannot be advanced without putting the Commodities out of Uſe; and conſequently, if a farther Duty be laid, it will oblige the Merchants to carry their Goods to ſome Foreign Market, which will be the utter Ruin of the *Spaniſh* Leather-Dreſſers, and their Families, and alſo the Ruin of a great Number of Families whom they now employ, beſides a great Detriment to the Revenue, for that One Third Part of the Goat-Skins imported will not be worth the ſaid Duty, and the Charge of Dreſſing:

THE

SPANISH

Leather-Dreſſers

OF

Great Britain,

Their REASONS
againſt a Duty on
Leather.

REASONS

Humbly Offered to the

CONSIDERATION

Of the Honourable the Knights, Citizens, and Burgeſſes, of *Great Britain* in Parliament Aſſembled, againſt a Duty on Kid-Skins Dreſt in *Great Britain*.

Imprimis. THEY being a Foreign Commodity, and already pays a great Duty at the *Cuſtom-Houſe*, and being periſhable and liable to many Accidents in coming over by Worm, *&c.* do pay more Duty than a great Part of them are worth, or will yeild.

Secondly, They employ many Thouſands of Poor Families, and occaſion the Conſumption of very great Quantities of Salt, which Salt pays already a very conſiderable Duty to the Crown, being now Five Times dearer than formerly.

Thirdly, The ſaid *Kid-Skins* being of inconſiderable Value, and liable to ſo many Accidents in Dreſſing, as a Hundred Pounds worth often proves not worth Thirty, we humbly conceive if a Duty be laid on *Kid-Skins* when Dreſt, muſt be the utter Ruin of that Manufacture, and conſequently the total Ruin of many Thouſand Poor Families now employed, for their daily Maintenance in the ſeveral Branches of the ſaid Manufactory.

Fourthly, As the late Duty reduced this Trade very Low, and brought but Small Profit to the Crown, if the intended Duty be laid, one third Part will not be Imported, as being not worth Dreſſing and Duty.

Fifthly, We ſubmit it, Whether it conſiſts with the Intereſt of the Crown to lay a Duty on *Kid-Skins* Dreſt, which if laid can be made appear will amount to an Inconſiderable Sum, and muſt tend to the utter Ruin of the Manufactory, and many Thouſands of Poor Families, that are daily ſupported by it.

REASONS

Againſt a Duty on

Kid - Skins

Dreſt in

Great Britain.

816. m.
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Reaſons Humbly offer'd by the *Tanners, Curriers, Leather-Sellers*, and *Spaniſh Leather-Dreſſers*; Complaining of the many Hardſhips, there ſeveral *Trades* Labour under.

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1. SINCE the Duties upon *Leather* were laid, Great Quantities of *Shoes* are cover'd with *Ticking* and *Canvas*, inſtead of *Leather*: Which is a great Leſſening of the Conſumption of ſeveral of the Manufactures of this Kingdom, as well as a Diminution of the *Leather* Trade.

2. Before the uſing of the aforeſaid Commodities, great quantities of *Calf-Skins* were Imported from *Ireland* and *Norway*, which ſaid *Skins* being Tanned into *Leather*, Occaſion'd a greater Conſumption of Engliſh Bark; and alſo great Quantities of *Goat-Skins*, uſed to be Imported from *Spain, Barbary, Ruſſia* and *Norway*: Which ſaid *Skins* were purchas'd with the Woolen and other Manufactures of this Kingdom, to the great Encouragement of the *BRITISH* Trade.

3. The ſaid *Goat-Skins* upon Importation were Dreſſed into *Spaniſh-Leather*, and great Quantities of *Shumack* was uſed thereby, which is brought from *Portugal*, and Bought with our Woollen Goods: Likewiſe, which Tanning and Dreſſing, of the aforeſaid *Skins* into *Leather*, imploy'd abundance of Poor Work-Men, who ſince the decay of the *Leather* Trade, are become Deſtitute of Imploy, and their Families reduced to great wants.

4. It is humbly hoped the Evils complain'd of, to the great Leſſening of our *Leather* Trade; and the many poor Families imploy'd therein will be remedied, by Reaſon the Things complain'd of, are of no great Moment as to their Manufacture, but rather gives an Opportunity for Encouraging Piece-Brokers, and ſuch Perſons as generaly Supply their Shops with Goods, who are always eſteem'd Injurious to fair Traders.

N. B. Since the great diſuſe of Thin *Leather*, Engliſh *Calf-Skins* are reduc'd very much in Price, and unleſs ſome Remedy be had, the Evil will ſtill be greater upon our own Growth.

38.

Reasons Humbly Offer'd by the *Tanners, Curriers Leather-Sellers*, and *Spanish Leather-Dressers*.

Some Reaſons as to the Duty, laying upon Buck *and* Doe-Skins, *ſhowing that a High Duty upon them will be in great meaſure a prohibiting the* Trade *it ſelf.*

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I. THAT moſt of the Buck and Doe-Skins uſed, are ſuch as come into this Kingdom by way of Merchandize, and pay already a conſiderable Duty *per* Act of Tonnage and Poundage.

II. That ſuch Buck and Doe-Skins as are Imported come from our Plantations, and are there purchaſed by the Courſe Woollen Manufactory of this Kingdom, as *Courſe Cloath*, *Duffils*, *Cottens*, *Plains*, with ſeveral other Commodities, the meer produce of our Nation, and which conſume great quantity of our Woollen.

III. That a high Duty on them will wholly make the bringing of ſuch Skins into *England* Impracticable, as by a late Experience in *Virginia*, where 5 *d.* on *Doe*, and 8 *d.* on *Buck per* Skin being laid, it did for two years laſt paſt wholly cauſe a diſcouragement to that Trade, and hindred all Skins coming out of that Plantation: On which, the Merchants were obliged to get Their Majeſties to ſuſpend the ſaid Law, or that part of Trade had been totally loſt, which ſuſpention was but laſt year granted.

IV. That it will be a laying a Duty according to this Law of neer *Cent. per Cent.* on all ſuch Skins, taking them one with another, which the Trade cannot bear.

V. That great part of the Skins Imported are not worth the Duty now intended to be laid on them.

VI. That it will be Impoſſible to Agree and Determine what Skins are *Buck*, or what *Doe*, by which means there will ariſe great Controverſies and Contentions between the Officers and Merchants,

VII. That a great part of the *Deer-Skins* now Imported have the Hair taken off, for the more conveniency, and ſafe bringing them, (though neither dreſt in Oyl or Allum) and not uſeable till dreſt in *England*, yet by the word (otherwiſe) may be controverted to pay 12*d*, on Importation, whereas Skins are abated in Value by taking off the Hair, and are no way eſteemed dreſt by the Dealers in them.

VIII. That ſuch Duty will not only prohibit the ſaid Skins, but thereby put the Plantations upon the Uſe and Weare of them, to a further diſcouragement to all ſorts of the Manufactory of this Kingdom.

IX. That the Law which in *Virginia* hath obſtructed the Trade for Two Years laſt paſt, by which no *Deer-Skins* hath been Imported thence. The Reaſons of ſuch their Law was to keep the ſaid Skins in the ſaid Plantation, on pretence to Cloath their People. So that ſuch high Duty would only gratifie ſuch their Law to the great prejudice of the Trade of this Kingdom.

X. That theſe *Deer-Skins*, *Buck* and *Doe* are purely the Effects of the *Indian-Trade* of *America*, and much of it (eſpecially ſuch Skins out of the Hair) brought down Three or Four Hundred Miles out of the Continent; And if this high Duty be put on it, it will wholly divert all this *Trade* to the *French*, and other Factories in *America*, to the loſs of the Expence of our Courſe Woollen Manufactory of this Kingdom, which now is ſent to purchaſe the ſame of a very conſiderable Value.

The Reaſons above being conſidered, prevailed with Their Majeſties to Suſpend the Law made in Virginia *that laid the Duty there.*

Agta Duty von Brück
Doc: Skrits

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Some Few REASONS againſt laying the deſign'd Leather Impoſitions on GLOVES. *Humbly Submitted to the Conſideration of the Honourable* Houſe of Commons.

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IT appearing to be the Reſolution of this preſent Parliament, That a Duty be laid upon Leather, it's humbly conceived that this Honourable Houſe will impoſe the ſame under ſuch qualifications, as in their great Wiſdom may moſt equally affect all ſorts of Leather, and be Collected with the leaſt Charge to the Crown, and as little trouble as poſſible to the Subject.

And it's reaſonably preſumed, That laying Impoſition upon Gloves will not raiſe ſo much as is expected, and that Duty will be the moſt Chargeable to the Crown in the neceſſary method of Collecting the ſame, and the conſequences thereof be almoſt equally Chargeable and Troubleſome to the Glovers, as the very Impoſition it ſelf; for proof whereof the following Reaſons, amongſt many others, may be given.

1*ſt*. Gloves bear but a ſmall proportion to the Leather conſumed, and therefore if the Impoſitions be low, the Duty will be, comparatively, very ſmall; and if the Tax be high, the Manufactory will be in a great meaſure deſtroyed; in regard a large Impoſition will much leſſen the conſumption at home, for inſtead of Leather Gloves, much more Silk, Thred, and Cotton Gloves will be made than now are; and the great Price of Gloves will encourage the giving of other things at Weddings, Chriſtenings, and Funerals. Upon which Three occaſions, a third part of the Conſumption of Gloves depend.

2*dly*, It may modeſtly be affirmed, That a Sixth part of the Gloves here made are Exported to *Holland*, *Sweden*, *Denmark*, &c. And if the Duty be drawn back upon Exportion, the Profit to the Crown will be ſo much the leſs; and if the Tax be not drawn back, that of Tranſportation, in all probability, will be wholly loſt; for thoſe Foreign Parts will then be ſuppli'd from *France*, whence thoſe Markets will be furniſhed upon much eaſier Terms than our Merchants can ſell: And as for our Plantations which our Gloves now ſupply, thoſe will be fetch'd from *Scotland* and *Ireland*, from whence our Merchants will ſend them Gloves upon much eaſier Terms than here our Glovers can ſell.

3*dly*, If the Glover pays the Duty upon making the Gloves, whether he ſells them or not; then he will often loſe great Sums in the Tax, as well as his Gloves, which Braid in a Twelvemonth, and ſo yield little; for great quantities are ſold for 6 pence *per* pair, which, beſides the Duty, coſt the Glover Two Shillings; and many ſorts, as Tann'd Leather, Furr'd, and all ſorts of Shammy, when decayed, yield nothing.

The laying the Duty upon Gloves will be attended with many Inconveniences in reſpect to the Stamping; for if they are Stampt before they are finiſh'd, the afterworks of Colouring, Perfuming, Topping, and Embroidering, *&c.* will deface the Stamp; and if they are Stampt after they are finiſhed, the Gloves will be much damnified, as in loſing their Scent, Colours fading, and White Gloves ſoiling; which often happens, notwithſtanding the greateſt Care, and then are ſold as Damaged Wares.

4*thly*. The Glovers are generally ſo poor, that they are ſupplyed with Leather upon Credit, not being able to pay for that or their Work-folks Wages, till they have Sold their Gloves: Whereas ſhould they be obliged to pay the Tax before they Sell their Goods, their Poverty is ſuch, they cannot raiſe the Duty, and conſequently muſt leave off their Trade to the utter Ruin of many Hundred Families and Thouſands of Aged Perſons, Women, and Children, who are employed in Sowing of Gloves, and ſcarce capable of any other Employment for their Subſiſtence, and ſo muſt become a great Charge to the Pariſhes where they live.

In all Parts of *England*, ſome ſort or other of Gloves are Made and Sold, ſo that Stamp-Offices muſt be erected in ſo many places, that the very Charge thereof to the Crown will exceed in ſome parts the Duty. And as before-obſerved, one third part of the Gloves are conſumed at Chriſtenings, Weddings, and Funerals; and the ſhort time often given to prepare Gloves for thoſe Occaſions, is ſuch that will not permit the time of Attending the Office, for it frequently happens, that the Vender hath not one days time to provide, fit up, and ſend away 40 dozen of Gloves.

It is therefore humbly hop'd, That in caſe this Honourable Houſe ſhall continue their reſolution of laying an Impoſition on Leather, the manner thereof will be ſuch *as may* beſt *avoid the* **Charge** *to the* Crown *in* Collecting, *and* **Trouble** *to the* Subject *in* paying *the ſame.*

REASONS

Againſt laying the

DUTY on GLOVES.

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Hoy
816. m. 13.
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REASONS

Humbly Offered to the Honourable

Houſe of Commons,

By the LEATHER-DRESSERS and GLOVERS.

SHEWING

The Great Grievances that will be if a Duty be laid on Sheep *and* Lamb-Skins, *Dreſt in Oyl, White-Leather, or* Bazels, *being the Grouth of this Nation.*

I. THAT they are of ſo low an Intrinſick value, and the charge ſo great in Dreſſing, that if a Duty be laid on them it will be better to cut one third in pieces then to Dreſs them; and beſides the Grand Caſualties that do attend the Art of Dreſſing in Oyl, and White-Leather by change of weather and otherways, that ſometimes a 100 *l.* worth of goods proves to be not worth 30 *l.* and all the Art of Man cannot prevent it; and therefore very few of the Oyl Leather-Dreſſers, in the beſt of times, ever did good at the Trade, but a great many have been undone by following it.

2. Generally through all the Counties in *England*, the Dreſſer cutts what he Dreſſes himſelf into Gloves, and other uſes, ſo that the burthen will lie on ſome few Men that do not Cutt the ſame, for the aforeſaid uſes.

3. The Glovers are many Thouſands in Number in the Counties of *England*, City of *London* and Liberties thereof, and generally ſo Poor (the ſaid Trade being ſo bad and Gloves ſo plenty) that mear Neceſſity doth compel them to Sell their Goods daily to the Glove-Sellers, and to take what Priſes they will give them, to keep them and their Children and Fammilies at Work to maintain them, or elſe they muſt perriſh for want of Bred.

4. That it is almoſt impoſſible to put any Stamp, Seal, or Impreſſion on the ſaid Goods when dried without great dammage, for if the ſaid Goods when dried ſhould have any Stamp or Marke put upon them, when they come to be finiſhed they will not be of halfe the value, and unfit for many Uſes.

5. Whereas Skins Dreſt in White and Allom, are to Pay One Penny in a Pound, there is ſo much Salt uſed in the Dreſſing, that none can be dried for Five Months time in the Winter, but muſt lye in the Liquor, and when dried in the Summer, one wet day will make them give, and be ſo wet as if they had not been dried before, which if the aforeſaid Duty be laid will by reaſon of Dampneſs and Greaſe, many times amount to near the value of the Goods, and the Dreſſers muſt of neceſſity leave off their Trades or ruin themſelves and Families.

6. As to Skins of Forreigne Growth, If a Duty of Ten Shillings *per* Hundred ſhould be laid on Kid-Skins, it is the full value of what many Thouſands have been ſold for ſince *Chriſtmas* laſt in the Hair by the Merchant, and the ſaid Goods have paid one Fifth part of the vallve, as a Duty at the *Cuſtome-Houſe*, and when Dreſt will not yeild 20 *s.* *per* Hundred.

7. And if a Duty be laid ſo high on Bucks and Does, and other Forreigen Skins in the Hair and Wooll, it will diſcourage the Merchants from bringing the ſaid Goods to this Nation, and incourage them to ſend them into other Countries, by which Manufactery many Hundreds of Poor Families are Imployed, and for lack thereof muſt Perriſh.

Wherefore we hope and Humbly Pray, that the Reaſons aforeſaid may prevail with this Honourable Houſe, that no Duty may be Laid on Sheep-Skins *or* Lamb-Skins, *when Dreſt into the aforeſaid* Leather.

But if this Honourable Houſe ſhall proceed to Lay a Duty thereon, according to their preſent Reſolutions; It is then humbly Conceived, that if it be Laid for the firſt Buyer to Pay, it will be with leſs Charge Collected, the valve more conſiderable to bear it, eaſier to the Subject, and will bring a greater Revenue to the Crown.

I. FOR Firſt, The Butchers for the moſt part bring their Skins with their Meat to Market, and the Felmonger and Glover go Ten Miles to the ſaid Market conſtantly to bye them.

2. It will be more eaſie to Collect, a Book being kept in every Market, the Butcher to give in his Name and Number every Market day; and when once the Officers have a Liſt of their Names, it will be eaſie to find out the Defaulters, becauſe the Meat is for publick ſale, and cannot be hid, when the Leather may be cut into pieces for ſeveral uſes and not Diſcovered; the Penalty being laid on every Defaulter as this Honourable Houſe ſhall think Fit.

3. One Third of the Revenue will be loſt if a Duty be laid on Leather, becauſe they are of ſo ſmall value and not able to bear it; that one Third will be cut into Pieces, beſides the Grand Caſualties and Charge that do attend the Art of Dreſſing, and the Dificulty in Collecting, that the Officers will have the Benefit, and it will be a Burthen to the Poor Subject, and but little advantage to the Crown.

4. The Skins are one time with another four times the vallue of the Pelts, Therefore will as eaſily bear Two Pence Duty as the other will a Halfpeny, if laid on the Skin, every Skin will be of value to pay; if on Leather, one Third will be loſt, and beſides the Leather, for many uſes, is ſix months in dreſſing, and often times lyes longer unſold, if laid on the Skin it will raiſe preſent Money.

It may be Objected that many Gentelmen in the Country, Kill their own Meat, and therefore it will be inconvenient for them to ſend their Skins to Market.

It is thus Anſwered, If the Skins be dried it will be no dammage to them, for we have many Thouſand Imported from Forreign parts in the ſame nature, and when their conveniancy ſerves they may ſend them, and beſides, they will yeild more by the Duty in a Market, then if a Felmonger or Glover ſhould come to their Houſes to bye them, but if theſe Gentlemen ſhould be excuſed, their Number would not be one quarter of what will not bear the Duty in Leather.

REASONS

Humbly Offered to the High

Court of Parliament,

To ſhew the great Dammage the Publick Receives by the Ill Flawing of Raw-Hides and Calves-Skins.

WHereas by the Statute of the Firſt of King *James* the Firſt, *Chap.* 22. Proviſion is made, againſt the Ill Flawing of *Raw-Hides*, but by the ſmallneſs of the Penalty, being but *Twenty Pence*, and the difficulty of the Proſecution, being by Action of Debt, the ſame is become Ineffectual.

II. There is no Proviſion, by any Law, againſt the Ill Flawing of *Calves-Skins*, which are now become a great Ware in *Bootes* and *Shoes*.

III. The *Nobillity* and *Gentry* receive great Dammage in their *Coaches* and *Harneſſes*, by their often breaking and receiving wet through the Flaws, which cannot be ſo well diſcerned when wrought up.

IV. The *Commonalty* receive great Dammage, in their *Bootes*, *Shoes*, *Bridles* and *Stirrup-Leathers*, by Holes wearing in the Upper-Leathers, and taking Water in the Soles of the *Shoes*; to the Indangering the Healthes of the Wearers: And by the *Bridles* and *Stirrup-Leathers* breaking, Indangering Peoples Lives.

V. Hereby many *Hides* and *Skins* are Rendred unfit for many Special Uſes, which tendes much to the leſſening of the Commodity, in the Price thereof, to the value of above One Thouſand Pounds *per Annum* in *Leaden-Hall Market*, as is ready to be Atteſted by many Credible Perſons. And what muſt the Dammage then be in all the other Markets in the Kingdome? From ſeveral of which there is great Complaints: And all this to the loſs of the whole Nation, and Profit to none.

VI. Theſe Abuſes are now become ſo General, that the Buyers of Leather cannot Buy One Parcel in Ten but what is much Abuſed thereby, ſo that they are forced to Work it up into made Wares with theſe Defects, or elſe muſt ſuſtain great Loſſes.

816. [illegible]. 13.
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SOME
REASONS
Humbly offer'd to the [illegible] House of COMMONS
Againſt the MANNER of
Levying the new Duty upon LEATHER.

I. THAT the Duty propoſed to be laid on the ſaid Commodity Imported, *viz. Kid* and *Lamb-Skins*, will amount almoſt to the third part, and often to the full Value thereof; conſidering that this ſort of Goods are frequently Worm-eaten, ill-pack'd, and made up with *Slinks* and Traſhy-Ware, worth little or nothing when dreſt.

II. That the ſaid Commodity ſtands already charged by an Act of the preſent Parliament with a Duty double to what was before paid, and the raiſing it again, together with the high Rate of *Salt*, *Alum*, *&c.* will make it not worth the Dreſſing and the Duty; which will be the Ruine of many Thouſand poor *Glove-Makers* here, and give great Incouragement to thoſe who Import Forein Gloves by ſtealth.

III. That *Kid*, *Buck*, *Goat*, and *Doe-Skins*, lie ſometimes Six or Eight Months in the Pits before they can be made Leather, and ſhould the Collector come to gather the Duty in wet Weather, *Alum-dreſt-Leather* may be dammified 12 *d.* a Dozen, or more; whereas, if the ſame were collected as heretofore, at the *Cuſtom-Houſe*, or while they are in the Hair, it would be done at leſs Charge, without Inconvenience to the Owners, and the Money would be immediately raiſed.

IV. That the whole Weight of this Duty will lie on the *Glove-Maker*, and not, as is by ſome ſuppoſed, on the Perſon who buys for uſe; for the *Glove-Maker* being neceſſitated for ready Money, muſt allow it out of his own Pains at the Will of the Whole-ſale *Glover* and *Millener*.

V. And whereas ſome Perſons do propoſe to fix a Seal and Stamp upon the ſame Goods, for a Mark of their paying the Duty; 'tis a thing not practicable, in regard of the fineneſs and thinneſs of the *Kid*, and their being ſo ſmall as not to cut a Glove out of many of them; and if they be not kept from Spots and Stains, they will be render'd unſaleable.

As to Inland *Goods.*

THat the *Butchers* carrying their Meat to the Market, may carry their Skins for the ſame Charge as they uſually do, and there the Buyer of the *Butcher* paying the Duty, it may be eaſily Collected; but if paid by the *Leather-Dreſſer* when in *Leather*, it will be an extraordinary Charge in gathering: Beſides, ſeveral Men in the Countries Dreſs their own *Leather*, and Cut it up ſo ſoon as dreſs'd, and when it is dreſs'd in *Leather*, they may eaſier hide Five Dozens of Skins than one Raw, and ſo they may Sell their Wares cheaper than they that live in Cities and Corporations, and pay the Duty.

That the Materials for Dreſſing *Leather*, viz. *Salt*, *Oyl*, *Sumach*, *Brazel*, *Gum*, &c. pay great Duties already, ſo that it will not be worth while to Dreſs many ordinary Skins, but the Buyer muſt be forced to Cut them in Pieces to make Size, and thereby the End of raiſing Money to the Crown will not be anſwered; and beſides, the Skin when in the Pelt, is not worth above 3 *s. per* Dozen one with another, but when in Raw Skin, is worth 18 *s. per* Dozen one with another, ſo 1 *s.* in 18 *s.* will be eaſier paid than 1 *s.* out of 3 *s.*

If a Duty of 1 *d. per* Pound be laid on all *Sheep-Skins* Dreſſed in *Oyl*, *Alum* or otherwiſe, the heavieſt *Leather* is of leaſt Value generally, by the Greaſineſs of moſt of them, by reaſon whereof it was never known *Sheep-Skins* were Bought or Sold by Weight.

If 6 *d. per* Dozen be laid on all *Lamb-Skins* Dreſſed in *Oyl* and *Alum* fit for *Glovers*: There is not one half that is Dreſſed fit for *Glovers*, neither can it be diſcerned till they be finiſhed by other Workmen what are fit, which being ſo uncertain, will occaſion many Diſputes in Collecting the ſame, whereas if the ſame were laid in the Raw Skin, much more Money would be raiſed.

That in Your Honours Reſolutions there are many Paragraphs and Diſtinctions as to the *Leather* Dreſſed by ſeveral Trades, as *Tanners*, *Oyl-Leather-Dreſſers*, *White-Leather-Dreſſers*, *Spaniſh-Leather-Dreſſers*, and *Parchment-Makers*; whereas (we ſpeak it with the humbleſt Submiſſion) if the Duty were paid by the Buyer of the Raw Skin, all theſe Paragraphs come into one, and may be gathered with greater Eaſe.

If 1 *d. per* Pound be laid upon all *Tann'd-Leather*, not excepting *Tann'd Sheep-Skins*; thoſe being but of ſmall Value, and very Greaſie, are never Sold by Weight but by the Dozen, ſo that by the Weight the Duty will be a Third as much as the *Leather* is worth, ſo no *Sheep-Skins* will be *Tann'd*. And if a Duty of one Penny half Penny *per* Pound, be laid upon all *Calves-Skins* Dreſſed in *White-Leather*; thoſe Goods not being Dreſſed without *Salt* and other Ingredients, it was never known that that Commodity was Bought or Sold by Weight, for that the change of Weather if Wet, doth extreamly augment the Weight thereof, and ſo conſequently the Buyer if by Weight muſt be deceived therein, and therefore they are Bought by the Dozen.

Upon the whole, We the Leather-Sellers *and* Leather-Dreſſers *of the City of* London, *not out of any deſign to obſtruct the Publick Welfare, but being willing and ready to contribute our utmoſt to further the good and wiſe Intentions of this Honourable Houſe,* do humbly pray, *That theſe Duties may be ſo moderated as to anſwer the end propoſed; That the ſame may be gathered at the* Cuſtom-Houſe *for* Goods Imported; *and for* Inland Commodities, *that it may be Collected in the* Raw-Skin. *All which we humbly ſuppoſe will be leaſt chargeable and moſt advantageous to the Crown, and more eaſie and equal to the Subject.*

REASONS

Common Pleas. Offered for the Altering of ſome Matters, and the Clearing ſome Doubts upon the words of the late *Act for granting Duties upon Parchment*, &c. which ariſe upon the Obſcurity, Ambiguity, and Generality thereof.

WHEREAS the ſaid Act Chargeth every piece of Parchment and Paper upon which any Common Bayl ſhall be Filed, and any Appearance on ſuch Bayl ſhall be Entred with the Sum of Sixpence. In the *Common Pleas* no Common Bayl is Filed for any Defendant; but his Appearance is Entred only in the Office-Book or Remembrance; in order to the Officers Entring the ſame on Record. And the Act doth not direct which of theſe Appearance-Entries ſhall be Stamped. It is impracticable for the Officers to ſend their Books to be Stamped; And 'tis dangerous and miſchievous to ſend the Rolls and Records to be Stamped, Oyled, and Greaſed for every Appearance-Entry; And yet by the Generality of the words of the Act both may be included, and ſo a Double Duty paid for Entring one Appearance. Alſo the ſame Duty is required for every Defendant's Name in a joynt Action, when by Law one Appearance is Recorded for them all.

The like Inconveniencies and Miſchiefs enſue in all Entries of all ſorts of Rules and Judgments, both before and after Verdict.

Several Meſne Proceſs for the Recovery of Debts, are, by the great Duty laid on them, become Grievous to the Subject, and thereby leſſen the Revenue accruing to the Crown by Amerciaments, *&c. viz.*

The General Writs of *Habeas Corpus* in Common Actions, are Charged with the Duty of Five Shillings; By means whereof the Crown loſeth Ten times the value of the Duty in Iſſues; The Subject declining ſuch Proceſs by reaſon of the Charge thereof. Whereas it's conceived the ſaid Duty of Five Shillings was by the ſaid Act intended only on Writs of *Habeas Corpus* in Criminal Cauſes.

The Stamping of Parchment before the ſame is Written upon, is prejudicial to the Subject, and of no advantage to the Crown.

1. Becauſe the Parchment upon which Proceſs Iſſues out of any of the Courts at *Weſtminſter*, cannot be Stamped to be fitted to the Occaſion, which in ſuch infinite numbers of Proceſs is of great loſs to the Officers and Suitors, in paying the Duty twice for ſuch as prove unfit, or through miſtake, or by accident, are ſpoiled in Writing them, or otherwiſe.

2. This occaſions great trouble and delay in buſineſs of ſeveral kinds, for which Parchment cannot be Stamped and fitted till the buſineſs and cauſe of Action be known; And then the ſtaying till the Stamp be fixed to Parchment fitted for the purpoſe, breaks off ſome buſineſs, and delays the diſpatch of much more. Whereas if Proceſs and Buſineſs of all kinds might be written and be afterwards of no force until the Stamp be Affixed, the King would have the Duty, and the People leſs Inconvenience.

Comon pwa
reasons for alhemij
some obscure
passages in ye pap
& parchmont &c

816. m. 13.
45

K

Brief directions how to Tanne Leather according to a new Invention made out by ſeverall of the principal Tanners, uſing Leaden-Hall *Market.*

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FIrſt all the Tops or Loppings of Oake of what Age or Growth ſoever, or young Oaken Coppice wood, from two to ten or twelve years growth, being Cut and gotten in the Spring, at or a little before the Leafe ſhoots forth, or in Barking time: The Sap (which is the main and ſole cauſe of Tanning) being then the moſt fluent and powerful in it, will Tanne all ſorts of Leather, or the Tops of thoſe Trees that the Bark is ſtript off, or the Tops of Coppice wood ſtript as aforeſaid will be as ſerviceable.

And after they are ſo gotten in their proper ſeaſon they muſt be very well dryed in the Sun more then Bark, and then hous'd dry, and ſo kept dry for uſe, and when they are to be uſed, the great wood muſt be ſhav'd into ſhavings, and the ſmall wood muſt be bruiſed upon an Anvil with a dented Hammer, and then cut ſhort, and dryed very well again upon a Kiln, and after ground or made ſmall like Barke.

Thoſe Ingredients which are uſed preſently after they are gotten will require the better and more drying, otherwiſe they will black and ſhrink the Hydes or Skins.

There may be uſed hereof from the Thickneſſe of ones Leg to the ſmalleſt Twig, and the older they are, and kept dry, the better and more effectual they will be.

The Tops or Loppings of Burch being likewiſe got in the ſeaſon of the year as before preſcribed and ordered, as the Tops of Oake, as before (if uſed) are very effectuall for Soal-Leather.

Theſe will not only Tanne of themſelves as well as Bark, with far leſſe Charge, and make as good Leather, but may be mixed with Bark, whereby much of the great Charge and Quantities thereof, now of neceſſity uſed, may be ſaved and ſpared, as by this following Certificate will appear.

WHereas the Honourable *Charles Howard* of *Arundell* Houſe hath diſcovered unto us a new Invention of his to Tanne, and Convert all ſorts of Raw Hydes and Skinns into Leather. To the end we might experiment the ſame, and give our approbation of the truth and real validity thereof; Theſe are therefore to certifie all whom it may concerne, as well Tanners as others, that we whoſe names are hereunto ſubſcribed, have made uſe and tryal of ſome part of the ſaid new invention, ſo diſcovered unto us, and we do find that thoſe ingredients which we have made uſe of, are very plentiful to be had, and effectual in their Operation; and will of themſelves Tanne and Convert all ſorts of Raw Hydes and Skinns, into all ſorts of as good and ſubſtantial Leather, for their ſeveral kinds and uſes: as Bark of Oake, and that (if need require) in leſſe time and with farre leſſe Charge; ſo that we are very confident and well aſſured by experience, and the benefit we find our ſelves, that the ſaid new Invention will not only be of general Concerne and great Advantage to all Tanners, and the whole Kingdome; but likewiſe a certain and very conſiderable Advance and Income of profit, to the Inventor and Diſcoverer thereof.

Thomas Norris. *William Woodruffe.*
Thomas Randall. *Robert Hyde.*
John Clifford. *Jonathan Reynolds.*
Richard Page. *William Crane.*

THE TANNERS REASONS AGAINST The Exportation of BARK.

Humbly offered to the Conſideration of the Honourable HOUSE *of* COMMONS.

THE Exportation of Oak-Bark is prejudicial to the *Engliſh* Trade in Leather; *Firſt*, Becauſe it prevents the Importation of Raw Hides and Skins, which formerly was very great, there being annually imported into this Kingdom few Years paſt above One Hundred Thouſand Hides, beſides Calve-Skins, of which not one Twentieth Part are now imported. *Secondly*, It will moſt certainly ruin the *Engliſh* Trade, becauſe *Iriſh* Leather pays no Duty to His Majeſty, and is ſold to Foreigners cheaper than the *Engliſh* can afford it, which in a very ſhort time muſt wholly prevent the Exportation of *Engliſh* Leather, and all made Wares thereof: And, *Thirdly*, It will deſtroy the *Engliſh* Trade, becauſe the Product of *Engliſh* Raw Hides and Skins will be much greater than the Conſumption thereof in Leather, which of Courſe muſt ſink the Price of Raw Hides and Skins in *England* to a very low Rate, and reduce the Number of Perſons employ'd in the Leather Trade to a very ſmall Body. NOW in Conſideration that the Export of Bark will prevent the Import of Raw Hides and Skins, and prevent the Export of *Engliſh* Leather and made Wares thereof into Foreign Parts, conſequently every Landed Man in the Kingdom, as well as the Traders in Leather, muſt feel the evil Effects of the Exportation of Bark, and ſuffer conſiderable Damages thereby. *Firſt*, The Landed Men, Graſiers, *&c.* muſt ſuffer in the Price of their Hides and Skins, becauſe Foreigners will be ſupply'd with Leather ſufficient from *Ireland* to make their own Wares, which *England* lately did ſupply them with. *Secondly*, The *Engliſh* will loſe the Advantage of Tanning and Working imported Hides and Skins as formerly, by ſuffering their own Ingredients to go out of this Kingdom to Tann ſuch Goods in another: And, *Thirdly*, The King, as well as the Subjects, will loſe the Benefit and Advantage of ſuch Goods as are brought from the *Streights* and other Places in Return for our *Engliſh* Leather and made Wares thereof. We mean, that His Majeſty will be deprived of his Cuſtoms for ſuch imported Goods, and the Subjects the Benefit of that way of Trade.

In ſhort the Queſtion is, Whether *England*, where a great Duty is paid, or *Ireland*, where none is, ſhall have the Preference, or whether *England* ſhall aſſiſt *Ireland* to her apparent and certain Damage. None in *England* can be Loſers by preventing the Exportation of Bark; but all will be Gainers, even all Perſons who have Bark to ſell, becauſe the Growth of Cattle upon every Perſon's Eſtate Yearly in the Kingdom muſt, without Exception, be much ſuperiour to that of Bark: And if all our *Engliſh* Bark be conſumed in *England*, it will advance the Price of it, and the Price of Raw Hides and Skins, encreaſe His Majeſty's Revenue, and employ a great many more Hands to work in the Leather-Trade than at preſent, which of late Years were obliged to quit the ſame; for which Reaſon the Conſumption of Bark, when 'tis not exported, will be greater than when it is, by encouraging the *Engliſh* Trade, and other Countries to import Raw Hides as well as the *Iriſh*. And 'tis Fact, that Coppice-Bark, and other ſort in Proportion, in ſeveral Parts of this Kingdom, at the Time of Importation of *Iriſh* Hides and Skins, was Ten Shillings *per* Ton and upwards more than ſince the Export thereof; And 'tis certain that *Engliſh* Raw Hides and Skins were much dearer at the Time the great Quantities of *Iriſh* Hides and Skins were imported, than they have been ſince. All which, we hope, are ſufficient Reaſons to convince every True *Engliſhman*, That the Cauſe of our Complaints are not groundleſs, but altogether a General Good to all the People of *England*.

The Exportation of Bark is ſo prejudicial to His Majeſty's Revenue on Hides, that the Duty of 100000 Hides, as above, beſides the Duty of Importation, is leſſened 10000 Pounds Yearly at the leaſt, as by a moderate Computation of Two Shillings *per* Hide plainly appears; and the Decay of the *Engliſh* Trade, by preventing the Export of *Engliſh* Leather, will diſcourage the Breeding of Cattle in *England*, and undoubtedly leſſen the Revenue in few Years double the ſaid Sum, whereby the Government will ſuffer above 30000 Pounds Yearly: Pray then conſider what muſt the *Engliſh* People ſuffer?

816. m. 13.
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THE PRESENT

CASE

OF THE

Tanners, Curriers, Shoemakers, and other Dealers in Leather.

K. England. Commons, H. of

THAT great Numbers of Petitions have been preſented to this Honourable Houſe againſt the Exportation of Bark, from ſeveral Parts of this Kingdom, which now lie on the Table; and that about One Hundred Petitions more are now ready to be preſented from ſeveral other Places, Signed by upwards of a Hundred Thouſand Complainants; in which Petitions, or ſeveral of them, are contained other Complaints as well as that againſt the Export of Bark: And if their Aggrievances are not examined into, and taken into Conſideration by this Honourable Houſe, they have no other Place to go to for Relief, but muſt be content to quit their Imploy, to the Ruin of many Thouſand Families that depend wholly on the Leather Trade.

But if this Honourable Houſe will be pleaſed to give Leave to bring in a Bill for the Petitioner's Relief, and to ſhew the Reaſonableneſs of their Complaints, they doubt not (or at leaſt hope) but the ſame will be brought in to the Satisfaction of the whole Houſe.

PROPOSALS, about Lights for this CITY,

To the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, Court of Aldermen, and Common Council.

WE do hereby propoſe to this City, to enlighten it with *Glaſs Globe Lights*, which ſhall be ſo made, that neither the Tin or Lead, that is uſed in them, ſhall occaſion any dark Shadows whatſoever, but that the Light thereof ſhall be always Clear, and equally diſpers'd in the Streets, both under and on each Side round about them; ſo that their Light will be delightful and uſeful to Paſſengers, without glaring or dazling the Eye.

Theſe Lights to be ſet upon Poſts, or in Rings of Iron about Ten Foot high from the Pavement, and that tranſverſly in the ſeveral Streets; that is to ſay, there ſhall be ſtill placed a Lamp on the one Side of the Street, againſt the Middle of the Space where the Light of the two Lamps on the contrary Side ſeems to meet.

We will further agree, That no Houſe ſhall pay above Six Shillings a Year, and that every ſuch Dwelling, or other Houſe, in which Trade is carryed on, and that ſo payeth, ſhall have the Benefit of the Light, reaching and ſhining as far in the Street or Lane, *&c.* where they dwell, as their Door, or Paſſage into it; and after the ſame Manner, every Street, Lane, Alley, Court, Square, Yard, or other Places, ſhall be enlightened, having at leaſt one Lamp within Thirty Yards diſtance of each Houſe.

And that all Churches, Halls, Schools, *&c.* ſhall pay after the Rate of Eight Shillings a Year, and no more.

We will alſo agree, That the ſaid Lighting yearly, ſhall be continued from the Twentieth of *September*, to the Twentieth of *April*; and that they always be maintained only with Rape-Oil, and Cotton-Wick, and that they ſhall begin to be lighted at Candle-lighting, or as ſoon as it begins to be dark; and that they ſhall be kept burning clear, each Night, untill Twelve of the Clock, or ſo much as ſhall not be enlightened by the Moon; and that the Glaſſes ſhall be cleaned every Day, and the Lights ſnuffed every Night, as often as there ſhall be occaſion.

And it ſhall be agreed, That the ſaid Lights ſhall yearly be of the ſame Dimentions and Goodneſs as the Pattern to be given in.

And for further Encouragement to the City to give a Grant hereof, We will be obliged to pay the Lord Mayor and Commonalty, the Sum of *Eight Hundred Pounds* yearly, on the Twentieth of *May*; they obliging themſelves, not to permit any other Publick Lights to be ſet up in the City, during the Time of their Grant.

46.

Mr. Hopkinson's address
Esqr. for his Plate

REASONS

Humbly offered againſt the Paſſing of a BILL,

For the Sole USE of

Conver-Lights, or Glaſſes.

I. IT is conceived the Patent (the Time wherein is now deſired to be enlarged) is void in Law, not being granted to the Inventer of the ſaid Lights.

II. That ſince the ſaid Lights have been ſet up, other Perſons have ſet up the ſame Lights which the Patentee, or thoſe who pretend to claim under him could not reſtrain, although they endeavoured ſo to do, their Patent being void as aforeſaid.

III. Their Patent gives no particular Power to the Patentee, to make or uſe Convex Glaſſes, but is a Grant only for the great Increaſe of Light by extraordinary Glaſſes and Lamps uſeful for Light and Heat.

IV. Convex Glaſſes were in uſe for Light, many Years before the ſaid Patent granted; therefore Convex-Lights could not be thoſe intended by the ſaid Patent as a New Invention.

V. That in truth the many Thouſand Pounds alledged to be expended in carrying on the Invention of the ſaid Convex-Lights, has not been really expended therein for the Publick Uſe; but the greateſt part thereof has been exhauſted in Stock-Jobbing, by ſelling one of their Shares for 1100, or 1200 *l.* which lately were ſold for about 200 *l.* and by their giving great Sums of Money to others who would have ſet up their Lights, whom they could not reſtrain by their ſaid Patent.

VI. The Lights pretended to be ſo uſeful to the Publick, we know to be quite otherwiſe, by reaſon of their Darks and Shades, and Dazling the Eyes, and other Defects, and by their going out in divers places by Nine of the Clock, or before that time.

VII. Whereas there is invented a New Light, called, *The Light-Royal*, much more uſeful and beneficial to the Publick, than any Light now in uſe, being one entire Glaſs giving or ſpreading Light all round about, and underneath the ſame, without Darks or Shades, and a curious pleaſant Light to the Eye, and much clearer, and giving Light farther than thoſe now abroad do, and not dazling or prejudicial to the Eyes.

VIII. That the ſaid Light-Royal is fit to be uſed in all Churches, Halls, Courts, Work-rooms, Staircaſes, Stables, and other places where the other Lights cannot be uſed, by reaſon of their dark Shades, dazling of the Eyes, and other defects.

IX. This Light-Royal is the more beneficial to the Publick, becauſe much more Glaſs (now a conſiderable Manufacture of this Kingdom) is uſed about the ſame, than in any other Light now in uſe.

X. That this Light will be afforded much cheaper to the People, nor will any Oyl drop from the ſame, to the annoyance of any Body. And therefore it is hoped, That the Perſons concerned in theſe New-invented Lights, ſhall not be diſcouraged from uſing or ſetting up any thing invented for the Publick Good, by thoſe other Perſons concerned in the Lights now in uſe, who deſire to Monopolize thoſe Lights, excluſive of any other.

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W. 3. R. & M. 2.

PROPOSALS
BY THE
GOVERNOUR and ASSISTANTS
OF THE
King and Queen's Corporation,
For Encouraging and Carrying on
The Linnen Manufacture in England.

WHEREAS for the Encouraging, and more Effectual Eſtabliſhing the Linnen Manufacture in *England*, Their Preſent Majeſties, at the Humble Petition of ſeveral Perſons well Skilled in every Branch of the ſaid Manufacture (as hath been lately certified by Mr. Attorney General in his Report to His Majeſty in Councel, wherewith His Majeſty was fully ſatisfied) were Graciouſly pleaſed to Grant Their Letters Patents of Incorporation to them and their Succeſſors for Ever, bearing Date the Seven and Twentieth Day of *May* laſt, together with divers Priviledges and Immunities; And thereby were likewiſe pleaſed to Honour them with the Name of Governour and Aſſiſtants of the King and Queens Corporation for the Linnen Manufacture in *England*, As by the ſaid Letters Patents may appear. Purſuant to which Grant the Patentees, with the Aſſiſtance of divers Worthy Perſons ſince Joined with them, have raiſed a conſiderable Stock, and Set up the ſaid Manufacture, and already made as Fine Linnen as comes from Forreign Parts.

NOW in Order to the Eſtabliſhing the ſame in all parts of the Kingdom, both for Advancing of Land, and Setting the Poor at Work, They at a Court of Aſſiſtants held this Five and Twentieth Day of *October*, One Thouſand Six Hundred and Ninety, have, and do Agree upon theſe Propoſals.

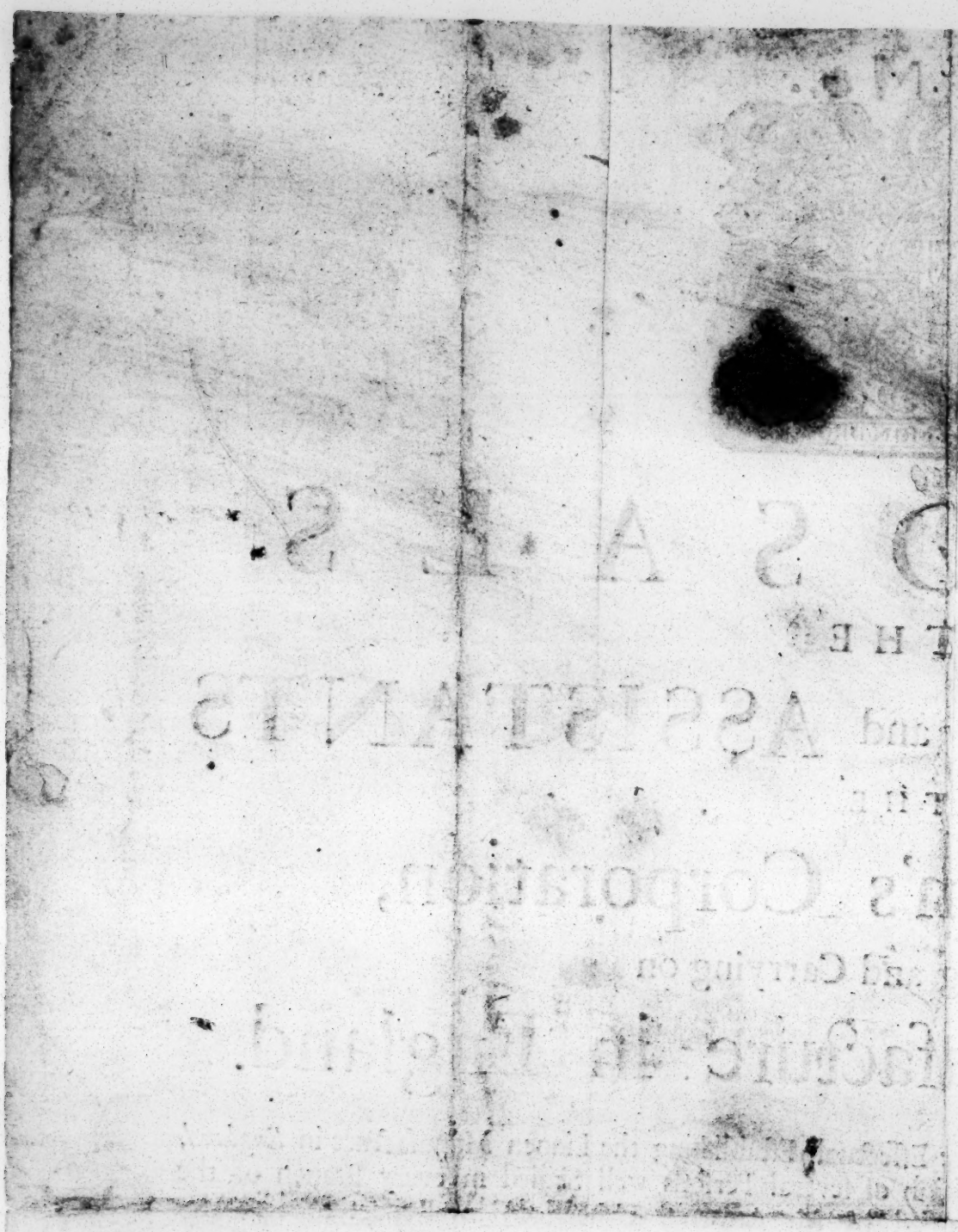
I. That WHEREAS the General Joint Stock of the Company conſiſts at preſent of Three Hundred and Forty Shares, They have agreed to lay open their Books at their Ware-houſe, being *Salisbury* Exchange in the *Strand*, until the Four and Twentieth Day of *January* next, for all Perſons that are deſirous to come in.

II. That every Perſon that will be Intereſted in one Share in the ſaid Joint Stock, He being thereby made a Freeman, and Entituled to all the Priviledges of the ſaid Corporation, ſhall pay Fifty Pounds for his ſaid Share, and ſo for every Share to *Robert Hookes* Eſquire, the preſent Treaſurer of the ſaid Corporation, who for the purpoſe aforeſaid will attend at the ſaid *Salisbury* Exchange, on *Wedneſday* from Three in the Afternoon till Six, and on *Saturday* from Nine in the Forenoon till Twelve in every Week, being the certain Court Days of the ſaid Company, or to the ſaid Treaſurer at his Houſe in *Baſing-hall-ſtreet*, *London*, any other Day of the Week. And every ſuch Perſon or Perſons at the ſame Court ſhall be Entred ſo many Shares in the Companies Books, as he or they ſhall have ſo paid for.

III. That upon the Six and Twentieth Day of *January* next, a General Court of all Perſons Intereſted ſhall be held at their Ware-houſe at *Salisbury* Exchange aforeſaid, to conſult of the neceſſary Affairs of the Company.

The Propoſals are to be had at Mr. Nicholas Dwpin *Eſquire at the ſaid* Salisbury *Exchange*, Gratis.

GOD Save King *William* and Queen *Mary*.



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THE CASE OF THE *Linen-Drapers*, and other Dealers in Printed Callicoes and Linens.

THAT the high Duties of Cuſtom and Exciſe on Printed Callicoes are 14 *d. per* Yard, which makes them too dear to interfere with the Woollen Stuffs.

That the whole Duties and Exciſe on Callicoes, together with the Linens, pays the Annual Intereſt of two Millions of Money.

That the Prime Coſt of White Callicoes is but one fixth part of what they are improved to when Printed here: Whereas the Prime Coſt of Raw Silk is more than one half of the Value when Manufactured. Whereby it's plain, that the Conſumption of Callicoes here is much more Advantageous to the Nation than that of Silk, with which only they can interfere.

That by the Improvement upon Callicoes great Sums of Money are ſaved to the Nation by leſſening the Home Conſumption and Importation of Foreign Wrought Silks; the Prime Coſt of which is vaſtly beyond that of Callicoes

That notwithſtanding the preſent Wear of Callicoes, there are Legally Imported Wrought Silks to the Value of 150,000 *l. per Annum* Prime Coſt; the Importation whereof would be very much augmented ſhould the Uſe of Printed Callicoes be ſuppreſs'd. And it ought to be conſider'd, that *Great Britain* pays to Foreigners for every Yard ſquare of Wrought Silks Six Shillings or Seven Shillings at a Medium, when the Nation pays for the like quantity of Callicoe but 6 *d.*

Callicoes are as much the Return of our own Manufactures as Raw Silk.

That the Clandeſtine Importation of Foreign Wrought Silks do greatly exceed that of Callicoes; Callicoes being not only more bulkey, but the Duties on them better ſecured by Penalties and Stamps: And by a late Act a Penalty of 50 *l* is laid on the Perſon in whoſe Cuſtody any are found without Stamps, over and above all Former Penalties. Therefore the fair Trader in Printed Callicoes ought no more to be diſcouraged, than the fair Trader in Wrought Silks, or any other Commodity.

That the Linens Printed are chiefly the Growth and Manufacture of *North Britain*, Pay 3 *d per* Yard to the Crown, on which there is not the leaſt Pretence of Fraud: And Employ ſo many Thouſands of *Britiſh* Poor, as will undoubtedly intitle them to the Care of a *Britiſh* Parliament, equally with any other Manufacture of the Kingdom.

It looks like a Paradox, that Wooll ſhould Annually Advance in Price, and yet ſo great a Cry for want of Work; and ſtill a greater Paradox, that it ſhould be more Run now than when 'twas Cheaper, and ſeems calculated to ſcreen the Unreaſonable and Unlimited Increaſe of the Number of *Weavers* in *London* of late Years, while Hands are ſo much wanted in many other Handycraft Trades.

That the *Weavers* late Riotous Tumults, and Inhumane Treatment of the Wearers of Printed Callicoes and Linens, hath ſo terrify'd them, that the Commodity lies Stagnated in the Hands of the Dealers therein; which is the hardeſt Caſe imaginable, conſidering they have paid all the Duties to the Crown; which is above 60 *per Cent.* of the Value. And that the Commodity being thus intirely lock'd up, they have the greateſt Reaſon to Petition for Relief; yet are not only Mob'd out of their Trade, by the artful Management of the *Weavers*, or ſuch as pretend to be *Weavers*, (altho' begun on the 10th of *June*, and Headed by an Enemy to the preſent Happy Eſtabliſhment,) But they ſtill continue the ſame Riotous Practices, and purſue them with Clamours and Complaints; which they endeavour to ſupport by Petitions procured, with the greateſt Induſtry, from Places where neither Callicoes or Linens can be ſo much as ſuppoſed to Interfere with their Manufactures.

THE CASE OF THE LINEN-DRAPERS, AND Other Dealers in Printed *Callicoes* and *Linens*.

The CASE *of the* Linnen-Drapers, *and others, Dealers in printed* Callicoes *and* Linnens, *relating to a Bill, now depending before your Lordſhips, for encouraging the Silk and Woollen Manufactures*, &c.

THE Dealers in printed Callicoes and Linnens are poſſeſs'd of a much greater Stock of thoſe Goods than uſual, by reaſon the Trade hath lain under an effectual (tho' illegal) Prohibition from the continual Inſults of the Weavers upon the Wearers of thoſe Commodities, (begun the 10th of *June* laſt) and hath remained ſo during the Courſe of this preſent Seſſions of Parliament.

THAT the Time limited is not ſufficient for Perſons to wear out the Garments they have already by them, ſhould no more be made up; and it's therefore unreaſonable to ſuppoſe they would make any Addition thereto: So that the great Stock remaining in ſuch Dealers hands as have paid their ready Money for the ſame, will not only be almoſt wholly loſt, but a great Number of the Retailers of the ſaid Commodities, who have larger Stocks upon Credit than they are worth in the World, will be intirely ruin'd, and a very great additional Loſs will thereby inevitably fall on the firſt Buyers, or Wholeſale Traders who have truſted them therewith.

THAT the Duties which have been paid to the Crown on theſe Goods, are near half the full Value thereof; And the Caſe of the Dealers herein would be the moſt unhappy of any ſort of Traders, who having their Fortunes in this Commodity, which they purchaſed in the courſe of their Trade, and under the Sanction of the Laws of their Country, will, by this Bill, (in caſe it ſhould Paſs) be not only deprived of their Trade, but unavoidably loſe their Subſtance now veſted in ſuch Goods, the ſame being rendered intirely Uſeleſs.

THAT ſeveral of the Dealers in Callicoes have already by them (fit only for Furniture) a greater Quantity of thoſe Goods than would, in their ordinary way of Trade, be ſold and made up in two Years, as well as likewiſe a large Quantity in the Printers Hands, which cannot be finiſhed till ſeveral Months after the Time limited by this Bill for making them up; which Time (being not two Months) would be inſufficient to make the ſame up, were the ſaid Goods all now Finiſhed and Sold.

THAT as the Bill ſtands, No Beds, Quilts, Curtains, or other Houſhold Furniture, made up of Chints or Callicoes printed in the *Eaſt-Indies*, or elſewhere out of *Great Britain*, tho' they were ſo made up even before the laſt Prohibition, can be uſed or continued, after the Firſt Day of *June*, 1720, under the Penalty of 20 *s per* Yard.

FOR which Reaſons *it's moſt humbly hop'd, Your Lordſhips will take the Caſe into Your Conſideration, and not lay Your Petitioners under the many inſupportable Hardſhips and Difficulties, as plainly appears in the Bill: But that as they have an equal Right, they may have the common Freedom with other His Majeſty's Subjects, to Diſpoſe of their Stock of Goods on hand; which otherwiſe will be attended with very great Damage to all the Dealers therein, and the utter Deſtruction of many Families.*

THE

CASE

OF THE

Linnen-Drapers, *and o-thers, Dealers in printed* Callicoes *and* Linnens, *&c.*

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The Caſe of ſeveral Merchants Trading to *Ireland*, as well as the Poor Linnen-Weavers in the ſaid Kingdom.

WHEREAS by an Act of Parliament made the 7th and 8th Years of His Majeſty's Reign, Liberty was given to Import and bring into *England* from *Ireland*, Hemp or Flax, and all the Production thereof, as Thread, Yarn, and Linnen, of the Growth and Manufacture of *Ireland*, free of all Cuſtoms, Duties, and Impoſitions whatſoever.

Which has Incouraged the Weavers to turn their Looms to the Making of Linnen, by which means a conſiderable Advance has been made in the ſaid Linnen-Manufacture.

But by another Act of Parliament made the 8th and 9th Years of His Majeſty's Reign, a Subſidy of 5 *l. per Cent.* was laid on all Goods from *Ireland*, and on Linnens alſo (as we ſuppoſe) by miſtake, contrary to the Intention of this Honourable Houſe; which has diſcourag'd the Linnen-Manufacture in *Ireland*, they being in their Infancy, are under-wrought by other Nations.

'Tis therefore Humbly deſir'd, that this Honourable Houſe will take their Caſe into their Conſideration, and allow the ſaid Hemp or Flax, and all the Productions thereof, free of all Duties, according to their former Act and Intention.

The Case of several Merchants Trading to Ireland, as well as the Poor Linnen-Weavers in the said Kingdom.

WHEREAS by an Act of Parliament made the 7th and 8th Years of His Majesty's Reign, Liberty was given to Import and bring into England from Ireland, Hemp or Flax, and all the Production thereof, as Thread, Yarn, and Linnen, of the Growth and Manufacture of Ireland, free of all Customs, Duties, and Impositions whatsoever.

Which has incouraged the Weavers to turn their Looms to the Making of Linnen, by which means a considerable Advance has been made in the said Linnen-Manufacture.

But by another Act of Parliament made the 8th and 9th Years of His Majesty's Reign, a Subsidy of 5 l. per Cent. was laid on all Goods from Ireland, and on Linnens also (as we suppose) by mistake, contrary to the Intention of this Honourable House, which has discouraged the Linnen-Manufacture in Ireland, they being in their Infancy, are under-wrought by other Nations.

THE CASE OF THE Printing of Linnen in *Great Britain*, as it particularly relates to the Printing of Linnens made in *Scotland* and in *Ireland*.

DIſaſters and Misfortunes ſeldom come alone: The importing of Printed Callicoes in *England* from *Holland* and *India*, was no ſooner found to be deſtructive to our Trade and ruinous to our Woollen Manufactures, and as ſuch an Act of Parliament paſs'd for preventing the Uſe of them, but our People fell in to Printing them at Home, weakly ſuggeſting that it would be leſs a Grievance to our Trade if they were Printed at Home, than if they came finiſh'd from Abroad, which Experience proves to be a fatal Miſtake.

The Callicoes taking by this Means a Run among us, and becoming ſo univerſal a Faſhion among the Ladies, however deſtructive to the publick Intereſt of our Trade, the Infection ſpread it ſelf among the meaner People; and as the Poor always mimick the Rich, and the Chamber-maid ſtrives to dreſs like the Miſtreſs, Invention ſupply'd their Vanity, and in an evil Hour, if not by an evil Spirit, ſet the People at work to Print low priz'd Linnens after the manner of Callicoes, which might imitate the unhappy Gaiety of the Callicoes, but come much cheaper to the Buyer.

How this has prevail'd, and how it is now as general a Wear among the more ordinary Sort of the People as the Callicoes are among the other, needs no Evidence: Nay, ſo far has it obtain'd, that for Morning-Gowns, Wrapping or Dreſſing Gowns, and Childrens Frocks, it now ſpreads even among the better Sort of People alſo.

The Conſequence of this is a dreadful Stagnation of our Woollen Manufactures over the whole Kingdom, inſomuch that the Trade is in ſeveral Branches of it quite ſunk. The Kinds of Goods that theſe People wore, and which were generally made of Wooll, or Wooll mixt with Silk, by which Thouſands of poor People were employ'd and comfortably maintain'd in all Parts of the Kingdom, as well for Spinning the Wooll, as for Dying, Weaving, Dreſſing, *&c.* are now diveſted of their Livelihoods, and reduced to inexpreſſible Miſery and Diſtreſs.

It ſeems to be no Queſtion in a Caſe ſo flagrant, and of ſuch infinite Conſequence as this is to the whole Nation, what Linnens theſe are, or by whom made, which are thus made the Inſtrument or Medium of Ruining the Woollen Manufactures of *Great Britain*; it is humbly hoped no Manufacture, where-ever made, or by whoſoever pleaded for, can be ſet in Competition with or ſuffer'd to invade the Woollen Manufacture of *Great Britain*, on which, without Arrogance it may be ſaid, the whole Nation ſo much depends.

The *French* have Ten thouſand Times the Linnen fit for Printing made in their Country that is made in *Great Britain*; the Linnen Manufacture in *France* being ſpread over the whole Country, and being more ancient and more conſiderable by far than either their Manufactures of Silk or of Wooll; but yet, as the Manufactures of Silk and Wooll are found eſſential to their Commerce, and to the Improvement of their Country, they have, under the ſevereſt Penalties, prohibited not the Importation of Printed Callicoes, and the Printing of them at Home only, but all the Printing, Painting, or Staining of Linnen, on any Account whatſoever.

But as our Woollen Manufacture is infinitely greater than theirs, and of more Conſequence to us, and we by ſo much the more ſhould be concern'd to ſupport it; ſo, on the other Hand, the Linnen concern'd in this Grievance, and that is Printed here, is principally not our own Growth and Manufacture, but made in foreign Parts, either in *Ireland*, or in *Holland*, or in *Germany*.

It is the Misfortune of the Woollen Manufacturers, that any of this Linnen, Printed as above, is of our own Make, being wrought in *Scotland*; and they would not be averſe to any Methods which might be thought reaſonable to preſerve and ſupport the Manufacture of Linnen in *Scotland*, ſo as not to continue the Grievance upon the Woollen Manufacture of *Great Britain*, and ruin their whole Trade.

But they humbly repreſent, That there can be no Reſerve for the Printing, Wearing, and Uſing, of the *Scotch* Linnen, but what will be made an unavoidable Screen to all manner of Fraud, and to the introducing the Linnens of foreign Countries, and even the Callicoes themſelves.

Alſo they humbly alledge, That the Linnens which are made in *Scotland*, and Printed in *Great Britain*, are but a ſmall Part of the Linnen Manufacture of *Scotland*, and but a ſmall Part of the Printed Linnen uſed in *Great Britain*; and which, if it is enquir'd into, will be far from being ſo ſignificant, as to be ſupported at the Expence of the chief Part of the Woollen Manufactures of *Great Britain*; which it is apparent is endanger'd thereby.

The Quantity of thoſe Linnens made in *Scotland*, and which are Printed in *England*, are, upon a very moderate Computation, not above a quarter Part of the whole Quantity of Linnen printed in *Scotland*, and amount at 10*d. per* Yard one with another, and is the full Price according to the Computation of the *Scots* Petitions; which, *ſay that the Duty is a third Part of the Value*, amounts to no more, at a Medium of Five Years, than Ten thouſand nine hundred forty five Pounds, Seven Shillings and Six Pence, which we hope will be thought a Sum too inconſiderable to give a Cloak to all the Clandeſtine Trade which would be carry'd on under Pretence of *Scots* Printed Linnens.

And whereas there is not thought to be leſs than Eight hundred thouſand Pounds a Year of foreign Linnens imported into *Great Britain* in a Year, upon which very high Duties are paid; 'tis very hard that the *Scots* cannot turn their Thoughts and Inventions to ſome other Sort of Linnen, which might not be ſo fatal to the whole Woollen and Silk Manufactures of *Great Britain*.

All which is humbly ſubmitted to this Honourable Houſe.

THE CASE OF THE Printing of Linnen in *Great Bruain*, &c.

816. m. 12.
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A Short View of ſome probable Effects of laying a Duty on *Scotch* Linnen Imported.

181. k

THE ſtanding Foundation of our *Engliſh* Trade is our Woollen Manufacture; and it may paſs for a fundamental Maxim in our Trade, That is the beſt Trade for us, which takes off moſt of our own Manufactures.

The Trade from *England* to *Scotland* is wholly an Export of *Engliſh* Goods. *Scotland* is a Countrey the moſt barren of Manufactures of any Nation in theſe Parts of *Europe*; they have nothing of their own Growth to Export, except Corn, Coals, Cattle, and ſome Wooll; nor nothing to form any Manufacture from, but what they receive from their Neighbours.

The principal Manufacture of the Kingdom is Linnen; and to make this they are fain to ſupply themſelves with Flax from *Germany*; and were not a greater Duty laid on the *Germany* Linnen than on theirs, they could never ſell it, and ſo the Manufacture as to the Exportation wou'd ſink.

The Profit of the Trade does not lye in the Linnen, but in the *Engliſh* Goods they purchaſe here; ſo that if the Sale of Linnen here fails, they muſt buy their *Engliſh* Goods with Money: This they are not able to do, for Money is not the Growth of their Countrey.

If the *Scots* ſhould ever arrive to any Perfection in the Woollen Manufactures, they will certainly out-do *England*; and we then ſee nothing but the Defect of their Soil, to hinder them being as Rich as *England*. But this may be affirm'd, That whenever the *Scots* ſhall grow Rich by the Woollen Manufacture, the *Engliſh* muſt grow Poor; for whatever Improvement they make, muſt be juſt ſo much Diſadvantage to us.

The great Advantage the Woollen Manufacture in *England* has of its Neighbour Nations, lies in our being able to come cheaper to Market than they; and 'tis to be fear'd the *Scots* would very much out-do us in that, by their cheapneſs of living.

If then they ſhou'd be able to make their Goods cheaper, I ſee nothing to hinder them from wounding our Trade in all the Markets in *Europe*; for they have as great a freedom of Navigation as we, and in time may have as much.

There is nothing hinders *Scotland* from being a Trading Nation, but the want of Goods to Export; they are as conveniently ſituated as can be for all Parts of Trade, and have as good Ports as we, and wou'd out-do us, had they Manufactures to Trade with.

If this be true, it can never be the Intereſt of *England* to give them ſo great a liſt in a Deſign which in its own Nature is ſo fatal to the general Intereſt of our Nation and Trade.

Any perſon who underſtands the Trade of *Scotland*, will readily agree, that if the *Scots* were to pay for all their *Engliſh* Goods in Money, it would ſoon exhauſt the Countrey of all their Coin.

The laying a Duty on *Scotch* Linnen therefore would have this double Effect.

1. It

1. It would cauſe *Germany* Linnen to ſell before it, and conſequently the *Scotch* Linnen muſt lie by, or be ſold to loſs; the *Germany* Linnen is generally accounted the beſt in proportion, and nothing has been the occaſion of the vent of *Scotch* Linnen but the Cheapneſs; which advantage being remov'd by a Duty, the *Germans* will have all the Trade; and there being now not above a Penny an Ell difference, this Duty, which is juſt a Penny an Ell, has juſt the power to deſtroy that little advantage by which the *Scots* kept the Market in their own hands.

2. The next effect will be the loſs of our Trade to *Scotland*; for, as is before noted, the *Scots* have no other Returns, or none that are conſiderable; if then the Linnen Trade fail them, they muſt buy our Goods with Money, or have none at all; Money they have not, as is alſo noted before; ſo that 'tis plain they muſt go without our Goods; and the Damage of that, is the loſs of our Trade, and a leſſening our Manufacture.

It has been Objected here, That the *Scots* are under a neceſſity of our Manufactures, ſo that they muſt have them, though they ſell their Linnen to loſs to buy them.

'Tis preſumed thoſe who made this Objection, were ignorant that there is a Company lately eſtabliſh'd in *Scotland* for the Erecting the Woollen Manufactures in that Kingdom, that they have a very large Stock in Bank for it, and that they have already made very great improvement in it.

The danger of ſuch an Experiment is not to be deſpiſed by the *Engliſh*, the Damage of it may in time amount to more than 'tis now proper ſo much as to imagine; the *Scots* are an improving People, and their Merchants are Richer than they ever were in former times; their People are very Numerous, and live very ſparingly and hard, and conſequently can Work very Cheap: And nothing can forward their progreſs in an Undertaking of ſuch a nature, like ſtopping our Trade with them, or raiſing the Value of our Goods; and we ſhould ſoon ſee, if they were once entred into the Trade, and had a Sale for their Goods among themſelves, they would prohibit our Manufactures of their own accord.

If the *Scots* Woollen Company were to be ask'd, What they would deſire of *England* in order to encourage their Undertaking, they would anſwer, that next to the freedom of Exporting our Wool to them, they would ask no greater a favour than the raiſing the Price of our Woollen Manufacture to them, or the putting a general ſtop on their Importation; one of which muſt of neceſſity be the conſequence of a Duty on *Scotch* Linnen in *England*.

Another thing which I think will be as certain a conſequence of this Duty as any, is a Deficiency.

I ſuppoſe no body will argue, That the Deficiency of our Parliament Funds has added any thing to the Credit of them; the preſent Duty on *Scotch* Linnen is about 9 *s.* 3 *d. per* 120 Ells, which brings in, as I am inform'd, about 5000 *l. per Ann.* ſo that ſuppoſing the preſent Addition ſhould be no leſſening the Importation, the new Duty cannot bring in above 6000 *l. per Ann.* but if it be a leſſening the Importation, then 'tis but a trifle.

So that it is at beſt but an impoſing upon the Parliament by putting them to the trouble to ſupply the defects of one Fund by another: Which 'tis hoped will be taken into the Conſideration of that Honourable Houſe.

The True CASE of the Scots Linnen Manufacture, Humbly Offer'd to the Conſideration of *the Honorable the Houſe of Commons.*

THIS conceiv'd the Petitions againſt wearing Printed and Stain'd Linnen in general, without ſo much as excepting *Scots* Linnen, are directly againſt the 6th *Article* of the *Union*, by which it is Enacted, *That all Parts of the United Kingdom for ever, from and after the* Union, *ſhall have the ſame Allowances, Encouragements, and Drawbacks, and be under the ſame Prohibitions, Reſtrictions, and Regulations in Trade*; and likewiſe againſt the 15th *Article*, by which an *Equality of Trade is to be preſerv'd throughout the United Kingdom.*

Tis well known that the Linnen Manufacture in *Scotland* is very ancient, and that the Parliament of *Scotland* before the Union, took as much Care for the Preſervation and Improvement of the *Scots* Linnen Manufacture, as the Parliament of *England* did of the *Engliſh* Woollen.

Therefore tis reaſonable to expect the like Care from the *Britiſh* Parliament of the *Scots* Linnen Manufacture, according to the ſaid 6th and 15th *Articles*, eſpecially conſidering that tis the only Manufacture left in *Scotland* to maintain their Poor; for the Greatneſs and Perfection of the *Engliſh* Woollen Manufacture have totally ſunk the Manufctuares of Woollen Cloths and Stuffs that came to a conſiderable Height in *Scotland* before the Union, when thoſe of *England* were under a Prohibition there; and as that Prohibition did then ceaſe, it muſt proceed either from Ignorance, or ſome unaccountable Management, that Bodys of Men in *England* ſhou'd Petition againſt the Uſing or Wearing of *Scots* Printed, Painted, or Stained Linnen, ſince any one County in *England* might, with as much Equity, Petition againſt the Manufacture of another which interferes with theirs.

But interfering with the *Engliſh* Woollen Manufacture is not the preſent Caſe; for it can be prov'd, That *Engliſh* Broad Cloths, Kerſies, Serges, Druggits, Sagathys, and the whole ſubſtantial Part of the *Engliſh* Woollen Manufacture is not in the leaſt hurt, but promoted by the Printing and Conſumption of *Scots* Linnen, becauſe it enables the People of *Scotland* to buy and conſume thoſe *Engliſh* Manufactures which otherwiſe they cou'd not do.

It can alſo be prov'd that above double the Value of *Engliſh* Manufactures is imported into *Scotland*, of the *Scots* Linnen imported into *England*: So that if the Wearing of Printed or Stain'd *Scots* Linnen were prohibited here, it wou'd be an equal Loſs to *England* in that reſpect; and it has been always allow'd as a Maxim not to prohibit even Foreign Goods, when the Nation to which they are imported is Gainer by the Balance of Trade.

But there wou'd be ſtill a greater Loſs to *England*, that the *Petioners* either did not know, or artfully did not conſider; which is this, That by their Petitioning againſt the *Scots* Printed Linnen, they give the *Scots* an equal Right to Petition for a Prohibition againſt Uſing and Wearing *Engliſh* Manufactures in *Scotland*; and ſince, by the Union Act, all Parts of the United Kingdom are to be under the ſame Prohibition, Reſtrictions, and Regulations of Trade, ſuch a Petition of the *Scots* cou'd not be refus'd, if that of the *Engliſh* were granted; and in that Caſe, the *Scots* muſt of Neceſſity revive their Woollen Manufacture; for tho they had not brought it to an equal Perfection with the fineſt in *England*, yet they cou'd vye with them in other Sorts, both for Home Conſumption, and Foreign Markets, which wou'd be much more prejudicial to the *Engliſh* Woollen Manufacture, than the Wearing of *Scots* Printed Linnen.

In ſhort, all the Arguments that can be offer'd for Encouraging the Woollen Manufacture in *England*, conclude as ſtrongly in Proportion for Encouraging the Linnen Manufactury in *Scotland*: Tis the ancient Staple Commodity there, as the Woollen is here, and does as really contribute to the Improvement of the Land, the Payment of the Landlord, the Freighting of Ships, and the Employment of the Poor; Therefore the Petitioners againſt *Scots* Linnen ſeem very preſumptuous, to ſuppoſe that a *Britiſh* Parliament wou'd encourage theſe Things in one Part of the United Nation, and deſtroy them in the other.

The Conſumption of *Scots* Linnen is very much hinder'd by the Chequ'd and Strip'd Linnen made in *Spittle-fields*, and elſewhere in *England*; yet the *Scots* Linnen Manufacturers think it neither Juſt nor Mannerly to Petition againſt them, tho they have as much Right to do it as the *Engliſh* Manufacturers have to Petition againſt the *Scots* Printed Linnen.

As to the Silk Weavers, whoſe chief Materials are Foreign, it ſeems pretty odd for them to Petition againſt *Scots* Linnen, which is entirely of *Britiſh* Growth; and from the Ground to the Garment is the pure Effect of *Britiſh* Induſtry. It ſeems really as ſtrange, that the Woollen Manufacturers ſhou'd be brought to joyn in the Petition againſt *Scots* Linnen; for wearing Silk alone, or mix'd with Wooll, is as much prejudice to them, as wearing Linnen alone, or the Mixture call'd Linſey Woolſey; but with this difference in Behalf of the Linnen, that tis the Product of their own Country, and the Labour of their own Country-Men, who the more they are encourag'd, the more able they will be to wear the beſt Woollen Manufactures.

The ſame Arguments hold in Proportion to the Silk Weavers; for the more their Fellow Subjects are encourag'd in the ſeveral Branches of Home Trade, of which Linnen is none of the leaſt, the more they will be enabled to Wear Silks.

It deſerves Obſervation, that the Wearing Stain'd or Painted Linnen ſeems to be brought in very craftily, if not invidiouſly, among the Cauſes of the Decay of the Woollen and Silk Manufactures, when the Petitioners themſelves aſſign other palpable Cauſes, as the Exportation of Wooll, the Number of Looms, and Apprentices, *&c.* which, with the notorious Idleneſs of many of the Journey-Men, Apprentices, *&c.* in the ſaid Trades, have contributed ſo much to their Decay, that they ought to have endevour'd a Redreſs of thoſe Abuſes which have occaſion'd ſuch ſcandalous and dangerous Tumults, and not to have Petition'd againſt any Part of the Home Linnen Manufacture, which is provided for by the Laws of the Nation, as well as the Woollen and Silks. Thoſe concern'd in the *Scots* Linnen Manufacture wiſh all poſſible Proſperity to the Manufacturers in Woollen and Silk; but think they have reaſon to complain of their Petitions againſt the *Britiſh* Linnen Manufacture, and humbly to exhibit to their Repreſentatives the Grievances under which the Linnen Manufacture ſuffers, and ſubmit the Redreſs of them to the Juſtice and Wiſdom of Parliament.

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1. That the Trade of Dying *Scots* Linnen is quite Loſt, and the uſing it White is altogether cut out, by the Importation of *German*, and other Foreign Linnen; ſo that now there's no Conſumption, nor Uſe for *Scots* White Linnen, but only by Printing it.

2. That by importing *Hamborough* Buckrams, and allowing great Drawbacks for *German*, and other Foreign Linnens, when exported, our Plantations, and other Places, are ſupply'd with that Manufacture cheaper than *Britain* can do.

3. That after the Union Act was paſs'd in both the United Nations, an Act was made by the Union Parliament in *Scotland*, *March* 23. 1707. by which Two Acts of former *Scots* Parliaments for Burying in *Scots* Linnen were repeal'd, and the People of *Scotland* oblig'd, under ſevere Penalties, to bury in Woollen; which is a very great Loſs to the *Scots* Linnen Manufacture, ſince the Woollen for Burying comes altogether from *England*.

4. That ſince the Union, a Duty of 3 *d.* a Yard has been laid on *Scots* Printed Linnen by the *Britiſh* Parliament, which is near 30 *per Cent.* of its Value; by all which the *Scots* Linnen Manufacture is ſo much ſunk, as that Part of the United Kingdom ſuffers extreamly.

Therefore tis hop'd and requeſted that theſe Grievances may be in due time redreſs'd, and that the Petitions againſt Wearing and Uſing *Scots* Printed Linnen may not be comply'd with, becauſe contrary to the 6th and 15th Articles of the Union abovemention'd, and to the very Deſign of the Union, which, as tis expreſs'd by the Act upon the 15th Article, was the *Increaſe of Trade and People, as the happy Conſequences of the Union:* Whereas, if a Law ſhou'd paſs, prohibiting the Uſing and Wearing of *Scots* Printed Linnen, as the *Engliſh* Petitioners wou'd have have it, then the Staple Manufacture of that Part of the United Kingdom muſt be entirely deſtroy'd, the Land there muſt ſink in Value, the Landlords muſt come ſhort of their Rents, the Shipping muſt Decay, the Poor be reduc'd to Starve, and the People and Trade of the Nation Diminiſh'd: Which are all ſo contrary to the expreſs Articles of the Union, and the general Deſign of it, that it can never be ſuppos'd a *Britiſh* Parliament will comply with the Petitioners againſt the Uſing and Wearing of *Scots* Printed Linnen.

Thoſe concern'd in the *Scots* Linnen Manufacture aſſure themſelves, that they ſhall not fare the Worſe that none of them have been ſo Undutiful to the Government as to inſult the Perſons of their Fellow Subjects for Wearing other Manufactures than thoſe of their Making; nor ſo far wanting in the Regard due to the High Court of Parliament, as to make a Parade with Petitions contrary to any Article of the Union; but they humbly beg Leave to lay it before their Honorable Repreſentatives, that there is not a Village, Pariſh, Town, or County, in *Scotland*, but what is more or leſs concern'd in the Linnen Manufacture: And therefore they hope, from the Juſtice of the Honorable Houſe, that not only the Petitions abovemention'd, in ſo far as they relate to the Prohibition of *Scots* Printed, Stain'd, or Painted Linnen, will be rejected; but that the other Hardſhips upon the ſaid Linnen Manufacture mention'd above, will be in due Time redreſs'd.

And as tis the Intereſt of the *Scots* Linnen Manufacturers to prevent the Nations being impos'd upon by Foreign Printed Linnen, under the Notion of theirs, they will readily and dutifully ſubmit to the Stamping, or Sealing, of the ſaid *Scots* Linnen, in the Places where tis Manufactur'd, or to what other Methods the Parliament in their Wiſdom ſhall think fit, for preventing Frauds of that, or any other ſort.

THE

True CASE

OF THE

Scots Linnen Manufacture.

The True CASE of the Scots Linnen Manufacture, *Humbly Offer'd to the Conſideration of the Honorable Houſe of* COMMONS.

THIS conceiv'd that the Petitions againſt wearing Printed and Stain'd Linnen in general, without ſo much as excepting *Scots* Linnen, are directly againſt the 6th *Article* of the *Union*, by which it is Enacted, *That all Parts of the United Kingdom for ever, from and after the* Union, *ſhall have the ſame Allowances, Encouragements, and Drawbacks, and be under the ſame Prohibitions, Reſtrictions, and Regulations in Trade*; and likewiſe againſt the 15th *Article*, by which an *Equality of Trade is to be preſerv'd throughout the United Kingdom.*

Tis well known that the Linnen Manufacture in *Scotland* is very ancient, and that the Parliaments of *Scotland* before the Union, took as much Care for the Preſervation and Improvement of the *Scots* Linnen Manufacture, as the Parliaments of *England* did of the *Engliſh* Woollen.

Therefore tis reaſonable to expect the like Care from the *Britiſh* Parliament of the *Scots* Linnen Manufacture, according to the 6th and 15th *Articles*, eſpecially conſidering that tis the only Manufacture left in *Scotland* to maintain their Poor; for the Greatneſs and Perfection of the *Engliſh* Woollen Manufactures have totally ſunk the Manufactures of Woollen Cloth and Stuffs that came to a conſiderable Heighth in *Scotland* before the Union, when thoſe of *England* were under a Prohibition there; and as that Prohibition did then ceaſe, it muſt proceed either from Ignorance or ſome unaccountable Management, that Bodys of Men in *England* ſhou'd Petition againſt the Uſing or Wearing of *Scots* Printed, Painted, or Stained Linnen, ſince any one County in *England* might, with as much Equity, Petition againſt the Manufacture of another which interferes with theirs.

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But there wou'd be ſtill a greater Loſs to *England*, that the *Petitioners* either did not know, or at leaſt did not conſider; which is this, That by their Petitioning againſt the *Scots* Printed Linnen, they give the *Scots* an equal Right to Petition for a Prohibition againſt Uſing and Wearing *Engliſh* Manufactures in *Scotland*; and ſince, by the Union Act, all Parts of the United Kingdom are to be under the ſame Prohibitions, Reſtrictions, and Regulations of Trade, ſuch a Petition of the *Scots* cou'd not be refus'd, if that of the *Engliſh* were granted; and in that Caſe, the *Scots* muſt of Neceſſity revive their Woollen Manufacture; for tho they had not brought it to an equal Perfection with the fineſt in *England*, yet they cou'd vye with them in other Sorts, both for Home Conſumption, and Foreign Markets, which wou'd be much more prejudicial to the *Engliſh* Woollen Manufacture, than the Wearing of *Scots* Printed Linnen.

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The Conſumption of *Scots* Linnen is very much hinder'd by the Checqu'd and Strip'd Linnen made in *Spittle Fields*, and elſewhere in *England*; yet the *Scots* Linnen-Manufacturers think it neither Juſt nor Mannerly to Petition againſt them, tho they have as much Right to do it as the *Engliſh* Manufacturers have to Petition againſt the *Scots* Printed Linnen.

As to the Silk Weavers, whoſe chief Materials are Foreign, it ſeems pretty odd for them to Petition againſt *Scots* Linnen, which is entirely of *Britiſh* Growth, and from the Ground to the Garment is the pure Effect of *Britiſh* Induſtry. It ſeems really as ſtrange, that the Woollen Manufacturers ſhou'd be brought to joyn in the Petition againſt *Scots* Linnen; for Wearing Silk alone, or mix'd with Wool, is as much Prejudice to them, as Wearing Linning alone, or the Mixture call'd Linſey Woolſey; but with this difference in Behalf of the Linnen, that tis the Product of their own Country, and the Labor of their own Country-Men, who the more they are encourag'd, the more able they will be to Wear the beſt Woollen Manufactures.

The ſame Arguments hold in Proportion to the Silk Weavers; for the more their Fellow Subjects are encouraged in the ſeveral Branches of Home Trade, of which Linnen is none of the leaſt, the more they will be enabled to Wear Silks.

It deſerves Obſervation, that the Wearing Stain'd or Painted Linnen ſeems to be brought in very craftily, if not invidiouſly, among the Cauſes of the Decay of the Woollen and Silk Manufactures, when the Petitioners themſelves aſſign other palpable Cauſes, as the Exportation of Wool, the Number of Looms, and Apprentices, *&c.* which, with the notorious Idleneſs of many of the Journey-men, Apprentices, *&c.* in the ſaid Trades, have contributed ſo much to their Decay, that they ought to have endeavor'd a Redreſs of thoſe Abuſes which have occaſion'd ſuch ſcandalous and dangerous Tumults, and not to have Petition'd againſt any Part of the Home Linnen Manufacture, which is provided for by the Laws of the Nation, as well as the Woollen and Silk. Thoſe concern'd in the *Scots* Linnen Manufacture wiſh all poſſible Proſperity to the Manufacturers in Woollen and Silk; but think they have reaſon to complain of their Petitions againſt the *Britiſh* Linnen Manufacture, and humbly to exhibit to their Repreſentatives the Grievances under which the Linnen Manufacture ſuffers, and ſubmit the Redreſs of them to the Juſtice and Wiſdom of Parliament.

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1. That the Trade of Dying *Scots* Linnen is quite Loſt, and the Uſing it white is altogether cut out, by the Importation of *German*, and other Foreign Linnen; ſo that now there's no Conſumption, nor Uſe for *Scots* white Linnen, but only by Printing it.

2. That by importing *Hamborough* Buckrams, and allowing great Drawbacks for *German*, and other Foreign Linnens, when exported, our Plantations, and other Places, are ſupply'd with that Manufacture cheaper than *Britain* can do.

3. That after the Union Act was paſs'd in both the United Nations, an Act was made by the Union Parliament in *Scotland*. *March* 23d, 1707. by which 2 Acts of former *Scots* Parliaments for Burying in *Scots* Linnen were repeal'd, and the People of *Scotland* obliged under Severe Penaltys to bury in Woollen; which is a very Great Loſs to the *Scots* Linnen Manufacture, ſince the Woollen for burying comes altogether from *England*.

4. That ſince the Union, a Duty of 3 *d.* a Yard has been laid on *Scots* Printed Linnen by the *Britiſh* Parliament, which is near 20 *per Cent.* of its Value; by all which the *Scots* Linnen Manufacture is ſo much ſunk, as that Part of the United Kingdom ſuffers extreamly.

Therefore tis hop'd and requeſted, that theſe Grievances may be in due time redreſs'd, and that the Petitions againſt Wearing and Uſing *Scots* Printed Linnen may not be comply'd with, becauſe contrary to the 6th and 15th Articles of the Union abovemention'd, and to the very Deſign of the Union, which, as tis expreſs'd by the Act upon the 15th Article, was the *Increaſe of Trade and People, as the happy Conſequences of the Union*: Whereas, if a Law ſhou'd paſs, prohibiting the Uſing and Wearing of *Scots* Printed Linnen, as the *Engliſh* Petitioners wou'd have it; then the Staple Manufacture of that Part of the United Kingdom muſt be entirely deſtroy'd, the Land there muſt ſink in Value, the Land-Lords muſt come ſhort of their Rents, the Shipping muſt decay, the Poor be reduc'd to ſtarve, and the People and Trade of the Nation diminiſh'd: Which are all ſo contrary to the expreſs Articles of the Union, and the general Deſign of it, that it can never be ſuppos'd a *Britiſh* Parliament will comply with the Petitioners againſt the Uſing and Wearing of *Scots* Printed Linnen.

Thoſe concern'd in the *Scots* Linnen Manufacture aſſure themſelves, that they ſhall not fare the worſe, that none of 'em have been ſo undutiful to the Government as to inſult the Perſons of their Fellow Subjects for Wearing other Manufactures than thoſe of their Making; nor ſo far wanting in the Regard due to the High Court of Parliament, as to make a Parade with Petitions contrary to any Article of the Union; but they humbly beg Leave to lay it before their Honorable Repreſentatives, that there is not a Village, Pariſh, Town, or County, in *Scotland*, but what is more or leſs concern'd in the Linnen Manufacture; and therefore they hope from the Juſtice of the Honorable Houſe, that not only the Petitions above-mention'd, in ſo far as they relate to the Prohibition of *Scots* Printed, Stain'd, or Painted Linnen, will be rejected; but that the other Hardſhips upon the ſaid Linnen Manufacture, mention'd above, will be in due Time redreſs'd.

And as tis the Intereſt of the *Scots* Linnen Manufacturers to prevent the Nations being impos'd upon by Foreign Printed Linnen, under the Notion of theirs, they will readily and dutifully ſubmit to the Stamping, or Sealing, of the ſaid *Scots* Linnen, in the Places where tis Manufactur'd, or to what other Methods the Parliament in their Wiſdom, ſhall think fit, for preventing Frauds of that, or any other ſort.

THE True CASE OF THE *Scots Linnen Manufacture.*

The ANSWER of the *Scots* Linnen Manufacturers to the REPORT of the Lords Commissioners of Trade and Plantations; and to a Paper falsly call'd, *The* CASE *of the Printing of Linnen in* Great-Britain, *&c.*

Humbly submitted to the Consideration of the Honorable House of COMMONS.

THE Lords Commissioners have been pleas'd to Report, 1. That the Value of 800000 *l. per Ann.* of Forren Linnen is imported into *England* under high Dutys, and that the Manufacturers of Linnen may easily vary to the making of the Sorts of Linnen now imported from Abroad.

2. That the *North-Britons* ought particularly to consider the Advantage they enjoy by the great Quantity of Thread, or Linnen Yarn, consum'd in the Stuff Manufactures.

To the First tis reply'd, That their Lordships are under a very great Mistake; for the *Scots* Flax and Linnen Yarn is of so woolly and soft a Nature, that it cannot be made into strong Linnen, like that of *Germany*, or into fine Linnen, like that of *Holland* and *Flanders*. This the Dealers in *Scots* Linnen know by Experience; for tho they have sent Patterns of all Sorts of Forren Linnen, both brown and white, to *Scotland* for the Manufacturers there to imitate, they were never able to do it, tho they have frequently attempted it, but always with Loss, both by the Companys that set them on foot, and also by the Manufacture of the late Queen *Mary* of Glorious Memory.

This is farther evident by the frequent Commissions which they have from *Scotland* to send them for their own Use strong and fine Linnens from *London*, *Lancashire*, and *Ireland*.

To the Second Article of their Lordships Report it is answer'd, by the Dealers in *Scots* Linnen, that they know nothing of any such Consumption of *Scots* Thread or Linnen Yarn in the *English* Stuff and Silk Manufactures as their Lordships mention; nor can they see the Force of this Reasoning, That because the *Scots* sell Linnen Yarn to the *English*, they must therfor sell them no Linnen for Printing.

Besides, if there were any such Consumption as their Lordships suppose, the Honorable House must needs be sensible that this Part of the Improvement wou'd be intirely lost to *Scotland*, and give the *Scots* a Handle to Petition, that their Linnen, Yarn, and Thread, may'nt be exported, but fully manufactured at Home.

But the *Scots* Manufacturers can make it appear, that the Importation of their Thread or Linnen Yarn into *England*, does not exceed 4000 *l. Sterling per Ann.* and that tis principally made into Tapes, Incles, and Thread Laces, at *Manchester*; and some small Quantity of it us'd at *London*. There was formerly indeed a much greater Consumption of their Linnen Yarn in *Lancashire*, for making Fustians and Checks; but for seven Years past, the *Hamburgh* and *Irish* Linnen Yarn have entirely cut out the *Scots*, and since the late Rebellious Tumults in *Spittle Fields*, &c. the Dealers in *Scots* Linnen have as little Vent for it as if it were actually prohibited by Act of Parliament.

As to the Paper call'd, *The Case of the Printing of Linnen in* Great Britain, *&c.* The *Scots* Manufacturers Reply,

That what the Authors of that Paper assert, That People were set at work to print low pric'd Linnens after the Manner of Calicoes, when those Calicoes were forbid by Act of Parliament here, tis absolutely false; for Printed *Scots* Linnen was in Use 40 Years ago, and very much worn in Gowns and Childrens Frocks, *&c.* even when Printed Calicoes were imported freely from the *Indies* to *England*.

That the Authors of that Paper are equally false, in saying, That the Linnen Printed here is principally made in Forren Parts; for it can be made appear, that *Scots* Linnen is 3 4ths of all that is Printed, Stamp'd, or Stain'd in *England*, and they are equally unjust in computing the *Scots* Linnen Printed here, but at 10945 *l.* 7 *s.* 6 *d. per Ann.* for it can be prov'd, that the *Scots* Linnen, fit for Printing, sold in *England*, amounts to above 100000 *l. per Ann.* and we know no other Use for it.

The Authors of that false Case allege, That Forren Linnen, and even Calicoes, will be imported under the Notion of *Scots* Linnen; and that there can be no Reserve for the Printing, Wearing, and Using *Scots* Linnen, but what will be made an unavoidable Screen to all Manner of Fraud.

To this it is reply'd, That these Men discover their own Hypocrisy, for in the preceding Paragraph, they pretend a Willingness to come into any Methods which might be thought reasonable to preserve and support the *Scots* Linnen Manufacture, but here they assert very magisterially, that it can't be imported into *England* without being an unavoidable Screen to all Manner of Fraud.

As this is highly malicious to the *Scots*, we take it to be a dishonorable Reflection upon the Wisdom of the House, which has overcome much greater Difficultys than this.

As it is the Interest of the *Scots*, that no Forren Linnen shou'd be printed under the Notion of theirs, of which it certainly hinders the Consumption, they dutifully offer to submit to the Stamping or Sealing of their Linnen in the Places where tis made, and are so well satisfy'd of the Parliaments Wisdom and Ability to prevent the Frauds suggested, that they are ready to comply with any other Methods that the Honorable House shall think fit for that Purpose.

These Men put on such Romantic Airs, as if they thought themselves able to bear down all Mankind with their bold Assertions, of which this is one, That there is 10000 times more Linnen fit for Printing made in *France* than in *Scotland*; but the Dealers in Linnen know very well, that there is no such Quantity of Linnen fit for Printing made in all Europe. They likewise know, that the *French* did not formerly make any Linnen for that Use; but supposing they did of late, and that their Government has forbid the Printing of it, there's no parallel in the Case. The *Scots*, by the 6th and 15th Articles of the Union, are to have an Equality and Freedom of Trade throughout the United Kingdom. Is it mannerly then for the Authors of that Paper to propose the Arbitrary Maxims of *France* to be follow'd by a *British* Parliament to the Prejudice of the *Scots*?

Perhaps these People have learnt this from some of the *French* Weavers, with whom they agree perfectly against the *Scots* Linnen, tho they cou'd never agree in any thing of Trade. But we perceive there's a good Understanding betwixt them since the late Rebellious Tumults (that were certainly set on Foot in an evil Hour, and by an evil Spirit) for the Authors of this false Case, who are so much afraid of having Forren Linnen for Printing, imported under the Notion of *Scots*, say not one Word of *French* Silks being fraudulently brought in and sold as *English* Manufacture in *Spittle-fields*, and elsewhere.

These People have still the Assurance to assert, That there's a Silk and Woollen Manufacture in *Scotland*, where we are sure there is no Staple Manufacture of either; for the Truth of which, we refer to the Worthy Members who represent that Part of *Great-Britain*, and even to the Consciences of the *English* Traders in Woollen and Silk, whether they don't know that the *Scots* are supply'd with those Manufactures from *England*.

The *Scots* Union Parliament was so complaisant after the Union was agreed on in both Parliaments, as to Repeal two *Scots* Acts for Burying only in our own Linnen; and since that time the *Scots* have had all their Burying Cloths from *England*. One wou'd think this might deserve a better Return from the *English* Woollen Manufacturers than such Noise and Clamor against *Scots* Printed Linnen. Those Mens Tragical Outcrys as if they must be undone, and all the *English* Poor be reduc'd to inexpressible Misery and Distress, if the Using and Wearing *Scots* Printed Linnen be not forbid, look as if they were prompted by some Body not only to raise more Rebellious Tumults in *England*, but to create a Division betwixt the United Nations; for they cannot be ignorant that such a Prohibition wou'd be a manifest Infraction of the Union.

If there be such Misery and Distress among the *English* Weavers in Town and Country as these Men suggest, how comes it to pass that they have rais'd the Price of their Goods, and think it a Favor even to shew them to Customers, because they are so full of Expectation of greater Rates? There are Instances of it to be given since the Weavers have conceiv'd such Hopes by the mistaken Report of the Lords Commissioners of Trade, *&c.* to carry their Point against Printed *Scots* Linnen.

These Men pretend to a mighty Concern for the *English* Trade, yet take not the least Notice of what we have said in our Case to prove, That the *English* have a great Overbalance of Trade upon us; which they must altogether lose, if *Scots* Printed Linnen be prohibited in *England*, because we shall not then be able to purchase *English* Woollens and Silks. They have no Regard to the Poor of *Scotland* who must be utterly ruin'd, nor to the Fall of our Gentlements Rents, the Decay of our Shipping, *&c.* that must necessarily follow such a Prohibition; but instead of arguing, go on with clamoring, and think it Reason enough to destroy our Manufacture, because theirs is infinitely greater than ours, as they think fit to express it; which is just as good Logick and Christianity, as if they shou'd say, That a Man who has a small Estate shou'd have it taken from him, and that it ought to be given to his Neighbor because he has a much greater Estate already.

We never thought that our Linnen Manufacture was any thing equal in Value to their Woollens and Silks; but we can with Truth aver, That tis in Proportion as valuable to us as those are to *England*, and can't help thinking that we have an equal Right by the Union to have it preserv'd, continu'd, and promoted through the United Kingdom; for the Loss of that to us wou'd be as great a Detriment as the Loss of three Millions to *England*, since we think it no Dishonor to own, that as we are far inferior to the *English* in the Rents of Lands, we are much more inferior to them in Point of Trade, nor can we help repeating what we have formerly said, That if the Weavers insist on their Clamors against our Printed Linnen, we have as much Right to Petition against the Importing, Using, and Wearing their Woollens and Silks in *Scotland*.

We can't but observe the Inconsistency of these Men; sometimes they tell us, That *Scots* Printed Linnen is become a general Wear, not only among the meaner People, but has very much obtain'd among those of the better Sort in *England*. This they think fit to urge when they wou'd incense the Nation against *Scots* Printed Linnen; but when they have a mind to perswade the *Scots* to give it up as a Trifle not worth insisting on, then they tell us the whole Value of our Printed Linnen does not much exceed 10000 *l. per Ann.* This perfectly shews their Clamour to be false, that the *Scots* Printed Linnen ruins their Weavers, for allowing 'em to be a Million, it does not abate 'em 3 *d.* a year each, which is such a Trifle as ought not to be laid in the Ballance with a breach of Union, the ruine of the Poor, and disobliging the whole Nation of *Scotland*.

Tis therefor hop'd, that the Honorable House will have more regard to National Justice than to the Self contradictory Clamors of such Men.

The Importance of the Printed Linnen to *Scotland* does fully appear by the numerous Petitions from the Manufacturers there against the Prohibition demanded by the Woollen and Silk Weavers. The Representation from the Convention of the Royal Borows of *Scotland*, which was originally instituted for the Preservation and Improvement of the *Scots* Trade, and is their proper Business, certainly deserves more Credit than the Clamors of such Men, who if they wou'd regulat the Abuses which they own to be among themselves, as the too great Numbers of Looms, and Prentices, and the Idleness of them and their Journey-men, they might, especially if the Exporting of Wooll, and the fraudulent Running of Forren Goods were prevented, find Work enough for the Poor of their Trades without invading the Rights of their Neighbors.

he *Scots* Linnen Manufacturers ANSWER to the *Report* of the Lords Commissioners of *Trade* &c. and to a Paper falsly call'd, *The Case of the Printing of Linnen* in Great-Britain.

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THE

CASE

OF

The Convention of the Royal Boroughs in *Scotland*, in relation to the Linnen-Manufactory of that Country.

IT is an eſtabliſh'd Rule, and agreeable to good Policy for every Nation to promote the improvement of what is the natural Produce of their Country, and for that reaſon it is that every Manufacture is favour'd with the Publick Protection; for it not only keeps a great many hands at work, but there ariſes by it a conſiderable benefit to the Publick.

That as all Manafactures are the object of the Publicks Favour and Protection, ſo none ought to be more ſo, than ſuch where the Manufactory is not only made at home, but where the Materials ſo manufactur'd as well as the Workmanſhip, are the Product of that Country.

That this muſt entitle the Linnen-Manufactory to all proper encouragement, ſince the Flax of which the ſame is wrought, is for the greateſt part the native Produce of the Country, and by it the Nation gains a double advantage, ariſing partly from the Produce of the Grounds, and partly from the Art and Induſtry of the Inhabitants.

That this induc'd the Parliament of *Scotland* in four or five ſucceſſive Reigns, to give all poſſible encouragment to their Linnen-Manufactory, by diſcharging the Exportation of Linnen, Yarn, *&c.* and under theſe Encouragements the Linnen is become the ſtaple Commodity of *Scotland.* All Hands are employ'd in that Manufactory, every Town and Village in *Scotland* are particularly concern'd in the Impovement of it, a great many thouſand Work-People who would otherwiſe be ſent a ſtarving are thereby maintain'd, Land improv'd, the Tenants thereby enabled to pay their Rents, and the Navigation conſiderably encourag'd; and there is not any Borough in *Scotland*, where there is not an Incorporation of Weavers, whoſe greateſt, if not only Buſineſs, is the weaving of Linnen.

This Manufactory being of ſo conſiderable concern to that part of the united Kingdoms, the leaſt diſcouragement that way, muſt be attended with very fatal Conſequences to that Country. One amongſt many Inſtances is this, that ſince attempts have been made to have a Prohibition granted againſt wearing *Scots* Linnen, Printed, Painted or Stain'd, the Price of Linnen and Linnen-Yarn, is fallen more than fifteen *per Cent.* If the very Attempt has introduc'd ſuch an alteration, what muſt be the fatal Conſequence ſhould the Attempt ſucceed?

That the improvement of this Manufactory, is not only of uſe and advantage to the Country, but even to the Subjects of *England*; for as the great perfection of the *Engliſh* Woollen-Manufactury, has entirely ſunk any Manufactures of that kind in *Scotland*, ſo all the Woollen Cloath and Silks made uſe of in *Scotland* are imported from *England*, which occaſions a great demand for thoſe Commodities, and returns more Money into *England*, than is carried from thence into *Scotland* for Linnen imported. Eſpecially if it is conſider'd, that by Law the *Scots* are oblig'd to bury in Woollen, which is all brought from *England.*

That the Trade of dying of *Scotch* Linnen is quite loſt, and the uſing it white is altogether impracticable, by the Importation of *German* and other Foreign Linnen; ſo that there is no other way of diſpoſing of it, but by having it Stain'd, Stamp'd or Printed, and by this the Subjects of *England* reap conſiderable advantage, by the Printing and Staining of the *Scots* Linnen after it is imported into *England.*

That

That ſince this is the ſtaple Commodity of *Scotland*, and of ſo very great advantage to that part of the Kingdom, it ſeems pretty ſurprizing any attempt ſhould be made to prohibit the Staining, Printing or Stamping of it. For as this can be of no real prejudice to the Woollen-Manufactory, ſo it ſeems pretty ſtrange to attempt the relief of one part of the Country, by laying an inſupportable Hardſhip on the other, when both Parts are equally entitled to the Protection and Encouragement of the Legiſlature; and an equality in all Caſes of Trade is ſecur'd by the Articles of Union, eſpecially the ſixth an fifteenth, for with equal reaſon an Attempt might be made, to prohibit the Importation or Wearing of *Engliſh* Woollen-Manufactory in *Scotland*.

In ſhort, ſhould this diſcouragement be put upon the *Scots* Linnen, the Land in that Country muſt ſink in its Value, the Men of Eſtates muſt go without their Rents, the Navigation decay, the Incorporations of Weavers be ruin'd, many thouſands of Poor ſtarve, or the Country muſt be depopulated. His Majeſties Revenue will ſink, and the Subjects render'd unable and incapable of bearing and paying their Taxes for the ſupport of the Government.

That of ſo univerſal a concern was this Matter to the Subjects of that part of the Kingdom, that a Convention of the Royal Boroughs, met the latter end of *December* laſt, and the ſeveral Members for the remoteſt parts of the Country, came even at this time of the Year to attend it, and unanimouſly agreed to a Petition to the Honourable the Houſe of Commons, againſt granting any Prohibition of the Weaving of Printed, Painted or Stain'd *Scots* Linnen; and they hope the Circumſtances of this Caſe are ſo favourable for the *Scots* Linnen, that no ſuch Prohibition ſhall be granted.

THE

CASE

OF THE

Royal Boroughs in *Scotland*.

REASONS

FOR

Encouraging the Manufactories in North-Britain, *&c.*

WHOEVER rightly Conſiders and duly Weighs the Reaſons with which we lay Open theſe *PROPOSALS*, muſt diſcover They are Calculated for no other Deſign than a Publick Good to the Kingdom of *Great Britain* in general; Tho' they will aſſuredly bring to every particular Adventurer that ſhall come into Them the greateſt Profit.

WE have pitched upon ſuch Manufactories that are in Themſelves highly Improvable, and in their Conſumption moſt Staple: They will give Employment to our Poor, and prevent a Foreign Importation upon us: They will Improve our Lands and Circulate Money amongſt Thoſe who Languiſh under the want of a Publick Spirit to relieve Them.

THAT Theſe Manufactories may always Flouriſh, and that the Benefit they will afford us may extend it ſelf beyond what we can ourſelves Expend; We have choſe *North-Britain* to ſet Them up in, where all Things concur to produce Workmanſhip at the very Loweſt Price, and where Labour is ſo Cheap that no Country can Under-ſell us: A **Country** whoſe Great and Wiſe Patriots have always had the Buſineſs of Trade and Manufactories ſo much at Heart, as by a continued Series of Acts of Parliament to grant very Large and beneficial Privileges, to any Societies or Companies that ſhall Unite Themſelves to carry on any Branch of Trade, and have as wiſely taken Care to preſerve thoſe Privileges, and to Confirm all Acts made in their Favour, and all Laws which give any Sanction to National Undertakings, where the good of the Subjects ſhall be promoted as a private Right of Property to all Subjects by the Act of Union; Which Act does further Declare a Communication of all Rights Privileges, and Advantages which do or may belong to the Subjects of either Kingdom.

WE do not propoſe our Stock larger than the Nature of the Buſineſs requires, from whence we ſhall make appear, That our Purpoſe is not to draw Needleſs and Extravagant Sums from our Partners, more to ſupport Stock-Jobbing than really to carry on a Trade; but that each Share ſhall be Paid for gradually, and as the Buſineſs increaſes, which under proper Management will certainly produce ſuch Dividends, as will demonſtrate the general Benefit that will accrue from the Undertaking.

THESE being the Conditions upon which we build our Foundation, we ſhall ſubmit our ſelves to whatever Degrees of Encouragement our fellow Subjects will afford us, having all our Affairs under ſuch Management as no foul Practice can eſcape us, and every Adventurer has Liberty to View the Books, and upon the finding any thing Diſſatisfactory, he giving reaſonable Notice, ſhall have his Share or Shares made good to him.

WHAT we ſhall make our firſt Undertaking, is the Setting up a Work of diſtilling Spirits, in which we ſhall find Advantages ſurpaſſing what in any other Part of His Majeſty's Dominions are to be met with; there being great Quantities of that Sort of Grain by which we ſhall be Able not only to ſupply our own Conſumption, but near at Hand to furniſh all the *Northern* Parts of *Europe* with that Commodity: And it is to be hoped from the Largeneſs of our Stock and a Diſcreet Mannagement, we may be able to make as great Gain as the *Dutch*; who, by this Article alone, make a greater Profit than without a very nice Calculation is creditable to believe: Hitherto They have been the only Gainers from our Produce, for after They have Diſtilled the Mault, and gained vaſt Profit by *Geneva*, They Sell us back the Spirits.

BESIDES

BESIDES the Trade with our Neighbour's for this Commodity, we ſhall find other Advantages from the ſeveral other Branches; and by this we ſhall not only highly encourage the Growth of the Corn-Lands in *North-Britain*; but ſave that Præmium the Government allows to the Exporters of Corn.

BUT that we may find the Means of a Univerſal Employ in *North-Britain*, where the People are already fitted to our Purpoſe, being moſt excellent Spinners, and have a manner of Weaving very ſuitable to our Buſineſs, we ſhall Introduce amongſt Them a **Cotton-Manufactory**, the Nature of which is ſuch, That One Pound of Wool not worth above 9 *d.* may by Workmanſhip be brought to be worth thirty times the Value; from whence it will be very eaſy to imagine that as the Improvements riſe, ſo will the Profits; and no Undertaking whatever can be a more National and Extenſive Benefit as well to the Publick in general, as to the Parties concern'd in particular; for when it is once rightly ſet on Foot, and ſupported with ſuch a Stock as we have provided for it, It will Employ an Infinite Number of People, and will hereby Improve the Rents, and Revenues of the Country, and Univerſally circulate Money through all Degrees of People; and who would not Rejoyce to ſee *Britiſh* Hands Earn thoſe vaſt Sums that heretofore we have ſent away in Bullion, to purchace the Labour of remote *Indians*, who take nothing but Silver from us; and while we wear Their Manufactories, we Starve and Diſcourage our own People, and give away the Improvements of our Lands and Eſtates: For the Treaſure with which we purchace Their Manufactories never more Returns, but remains a dead Loſs to us: But this Undertaking will Save all that, and not carry away our Money, but only make it Circulate in our own Kingdoms: It will Employ our own People, and Improve our Eſtates; ſo that every Hand will be a Gainer, and *England* certainly ever will be the Centre of the Wealth of *Great Britain*, for the *North* Part cannot Thrive without the Mutual Benefit to the *South*.

THE Cheapneſs of Labour, together with what has already been ſaid, will carry on this Manufactory to greater Advantage than can be propoſed in any other Part of *Great-Britain*: And *England* will ſtill flouriſh and enjoy it's Woolen and other Manufactories, without the leaſt Interruption from any Proceeding of this Kind.

WE have likewiſe before us the Improvement of Poor and Waſt Lands in *North-Britain*, by a Vegetable not yet made Uſe of, which excellently well ſuits the Soil of that Country, and at an inconſiderable Coſt will not only render thoſe Lands more Valuable, but will produce the Commodities of Oyl and Pot-Aſhes, from which may be made Soap, and the Linnen and Woolen Manufactories become extreamly aſſiſted; which Articles tend to the Improvement of the Country, and the ſaving a foreign Conſumption.

THERE are likewiſe ſecured divers Mines of Rich and Valuable Metals; ſuch as Silver, Copper, Lead, *&c.* which will be all Work'd and Undertaken as well for the Improvement of the Country, as for inriching the ſeveral Sharers in this Company propoſed.

IT would ſwell too far the Bulk of theſe Propoſals, ſhould we enlarge upon all the ſeveral Heads of Buſineſs that will of Neceſſity occur. Wherefore in a few Words ſhall only ſay, *North-Britain* is a Part Capable of vaſt Improvements, both as to its Produce and Manufactures, is full of People who want only an *Engliſh* Genius and Stock to lead Them to all the Improvements that Nature and their own Induſtry can prompt Them to; and as theſe are the only Views of Erecting this Undertaking, under an Honeſt and Reputable Management; It is hoped that both *South* and *North* will joyn Hands to help forward ſo good a Deſign.

REASONS

Humbly Offered for Taking Off

THE

ADDITIONAL DUTY, laid on *East-Country Linnen*, by the laſt

Act of Parliament.

I. THAT ſince the making the ſaid *Act*, the Importation of *Spruce Canvas* hath not amounted to *one half* of what it was the laſt year, and ſeveral Years before. And that moſt of that Imported laſt Year, was bought before the ſaid *Act* was made.

II. That the Duty now demanded and taken by vertue of the ſaid *Act*, amounts to above 40 *per cent.* on the Coſts; and is *ſo heavy a Duty*, that the ſaid *Canvas* (being a Courſe Commodity) cannot bear the ſame, which (if continued) will amount to *a total Prohibition thereof.*

III. That this Duty inſtead of *augmenting the Kings Revenue*, will *diminiſh it*, in as much as the Ballance of what *the advance of the Duty* will be, will not countervail by far what *their Majeſties* will looſe by *the ſhortneſs* of the Goods Imported.

IV. That it will ſo *diſcourage Trade*, that it will in a great meaſure *looſe the Exportation of the* Engliſh *Woollen Manufactures to Dantzick*, to which place we ſend more than to all the places in the *Baltick Sea* beſides, the Returns of which are chiefly in this ſort of *Canvas.*

V. That it may be juſtly feared that *the Dantzickers* obſerving that we Buy none of their *Canvas*, will lay heavy Duties on *Our Woollen Manufactures* Exported thither.

AN ANSWER to the REASONS

Offered Againſt

Reſtraining the Uſe and Wearing of Printed Callicoes in *England*, *Ireland*, and the *Plantations*.

'TIS a great Piece of Hardſhip and Diſcouragement to the Endeavours of Honeſt Men, who have no other Aim in their Applications, than the Advantage of the Publick, to be thwarted, oppoſed and vilified, by ſome Perſons, who have hitherto neither ſhewn Spirit enough to carry on, nor Candor enough to yield to any Regulation of Trade, tho' never ſo Neceſſary and Beneficial to the Nation, unleſs they could perceive in it a private Profit or Intereſt to themſelves, how much ſoever the Publick may ſuffer by their Gain.

There is now before the Honourable Houſe of Commons two Bills affecting the Trade to *India*; the one to Reſtrain the Exportation of Bullion; the other to Prevent the Uſe of Stained Callicoes in *England*, *Ireland*, and the Plantations.

Had theſe Bills paſſed into a Law ſome Years ago, it had been Millions in our way; and the Coin and Bullion of this Nation had not been in that Languiſhing Eſtate, which it is now evidently Reduced to: And if we are not yet upon our laſt Legs, we muſt not thank the Traders to *India* for it.

There ſeems to be nothing wanting to render the Coin-Bill effectual for the Purpoſe it is deſigned, but this one thing, That to what Value ſoever the Parliament ſhall think fit to Limit the Exportation of Bullion, the Sum Exported be in Pieces of Eight, or Foreign Coin only. The Reaſon is too Obvious to be named.

The other Bill is deſigned for the Encouragement and Advancement of the Woollen Manufactures, and the Employment of our People. And it is a juſt Matter of Wonder, that a thing of this Nature ſhould meet with ſo Conſtant and Regular an Oppoſition: But the Reaſon is hinted at above; and all the World muſt now own, *Great is Diana of the Epheſians.*

It muſt be owned, that this Bill is defective in ſome Conſiderable Inſtances, but may yet be made perfectly Effectual, by putting Printed Linnens under the ſame Reſtraint with Callicoes, and by Prohibiting the Uſe and Wear of all *Indian* Manufactures in *Ireland* and the Plantations. The Advantages of thus Inlarging the Bill would be unſpeakable to the Nation, and need not here be inſiſted on, having been already preſented to the Honourable Members, in a Print intituled, *Further Conſiderations for Encouraging the Woollen Manufactures of this Kingdom.*

There is a Paper handed about, ſtiled, *Reaſons againſt Reſtraining the Uſe of Printed Callicoes in* England, *&c.* Wherein that Trifler firſt affirms,

Object. 1. *That Printed Callicoes are chiefly Uſed for Frocks, Aprons and Quilts.*

Anſw. If theſe were the chief Uſes, the Damage would not be very great: But the Man prevaricates. 'Tis the Cloathing of many Hundred Thouſands of People with them, inſtead of our fine Woollen Manufactures, that we Complain of, and hope to ſee Redreſſed.

Object. 2 *If theſe be Reſtrained, the* Dutch *will Supply us with Linnens for the ſame Uſe.*

Anſw. Not if they be Prohibited, and the Bill Enlarged, according to the Earneſt Prayer of the *Engliſh* Manufactures. At leaſt, the *Dutch* cannot ſupply the room of Callicoes with *Indian* Goods, either in *England* or the Plantations: Not in *England*, becauſe they are Prohibited: Not in the Plantations, becauſe the *Dutch*, as well as all other Nations, are Excluded all Trade there.

Object. 3. *This Bill will only promote the Sale of a few ſlight Silks.*

Anſw. We do not trouble our ſelves with Silk: The Silk-Weavers are not the Petitioners for this Bill, but the Woollen Manufacturers in *London*, and the other Trading Towns and Counties of *England*, who have unanimouſly Spoke or Writ to the Perſons concerned in it, with an uncommon Earneſtneſs, to lay the Hardſhip of their Caſe before the Parliament, in order to their Relief.

Object. 4, 5. *The Printers and Stainers of Callicoes, and the People employed under them, are more Numerous than thoſe that would reap Advantage by this Bill; and cannot turn their Implements to the Printing of Stuffs,* &c.

Anſw. There is not One true Word in theſe Two Objections. The Number of Hands, Employed by the Printers and Stainers of Callicoes, compared with the Additional Hands that would be Employed in the Woollen Manufacturers, ſupplying the preſent Uſe of Callicoes, would make but a very bare Figure in *Arithmetick*, and not amount to above One in Fourſcore at the moſt. Neither is there any Damage deſigned to the Printers and Stainers, be their Number more or leſs, by this Prohibition; there being Twenty different Species of Woollen Manufactures, that already are, or at leaſt may be Printed, for all Occaſions, with the ſame Implements and Working-Tools they are now Furniſhed with; as every Body knows, that are Skilled in theſe Matters.

Object. 6. *Callicoes coſt but little in* India, *but being Printed here, are Sold for a high Price, to the great Benefit of the Nation.*

Anſw. That little has a Double Loſs attending it: The Loſs of the Bullion, that purchaſed it; and the Lowring of the Value of our own Produce, and the Employment of our People, in proportion to what theſe Callicoes give in our own Markets.

Object. 7. Is the ſame with the Second: And gives an Account *of about* 20000 *Pieces of Linnens, which,* he ſays, *to be of the Nature of Printed Callicoes, Imported from* Holland *in Two or Three Years time.*

Anſw. The Petitioners hope, that the Printing of Linnens may be Prohibited equally with Callicoes, and readily acknowledge, That there is great danger from Ghentings, Courſe Muſlins, and Scotch-Cloth: Theſe, if not Reſtrained, being too likely to ſupply the Place of Printed and Stained Callicoes. It is the Intereſt of *England*, not only to prevent an Over-ballance of Trade in *India*, but from all our Neighbours: And tho' we may Trade for Linnens, purchaſed by our own Productions, yet we ought nevertheleſs to Reſtrain Linnens to the proper Uſe of Linnens, and not to Encourage the Conſumption of them for outward Garments, leſt we turn the Ballance of Trade againſt us in many parts of *Europe*.

Object. 8. The Reaſoner concludes his Paper, with aſſerting, *That the Perſons, who Solicited the late Act for Prohibiting* East-India *Manufactures, are the very Perſons who have ſet up this Manufacture in* Holland.

Anſw. This is a falſe and malicious Aſſertion, without the leaſt Foundation of Truth to ſupport it: And the Perſons, who ſolicited that Act, and do now ſolicit this, doubt not but ſeveral Honourable Members of the Houſe of Commons will teſtifie for them, that they never attempted any thing in Parliament, but what was for the Good of their Country, and the Advantage of our own Manufactures: Whereas, the Reaſoner and his Friends never yet ſhewed their Heads in the Lobby of either Houſe, but upon a quite contrary Account.

Note, *The word* [Callicoe] *is of very uncertain Acceptation; and inſtead thereof may be uſed theſe words* [Callicoes, [illegible]ther Goods made of Cotten.]

A N

ANSWER

TO THE

Reaſons

Offered Againſt

Reſtraining the Uſe and Wearing of Printed Callicoes in *England*, *Ireland*, and the *Plantations*.

REASONS

Humbly offered for the paſſing a BILL for the Encouraging an Invention of Damasking, Striking and fixing Colours into all ſorts of Cloths, Stuffs, &c. And raiſing and Emboſſing various Flowers and Shades on the ſame; in Anſwer to ſeveral Objections which have been made againſt it.

THAT the Inventors, Publiſhers, and Diſcoverers of any new Inventions uſeful and Profitable to the Publick, deſerve Recompence and Encouragement.

That the Petitioners requeſt only to preſerve to themſelves a priviledge of Exerciſing their Invention, ſo far as the ſame is new, and without Encroachment or hindering the practice of any Artifice formerly in uſe, and without the trouble of vexatious Law Suits, to which Patents are liable.

That this Invention is a new Art of Emboſſing, Figuring, and raiſing of Flowers in ſhades and Colours, on Cloath or Stuff; which is an Art never publickly in uſe, till made ſo by the Patentees; that the word Damasking, being ſo called from the Figure or Form of the Work; which may be either with Flowers or Figures as well in this as in other Arts: the ſame is nothing Eſſential to the Invention, and the Patentees deſire not to hinder any Perſons from practicing the ſame, in any manner as formerly.

What have been Objected in a Paper, call'd Reaſons againſt paſſing the Bill, &c.

As to Patents of older date, the Oponents mention'd none in Particular; but produced only two at the Committee, of which neither have any Relation to this Art; the Words of the one being for Beautifying Stuffs by indented Lines or Creaſes, and thereby Watering and Damasking the ſame; which being a very Ingenious and uſeful Invention, have ſucceeded with good Advantage to the Aſſignees of the Patentee; who by vexatious Law Suits, or otherwiſe, having Arreſted the whole Profits from him, have boaſted they would ſpend a Thouſand Pound to contravert our Patent to prevent the Improvement of our Invention, unleſs admitted into the Society.

The other Patent was preparing of Stuffs to dye in two Colours, of which nothing was produced except ſome Pluſhes dyed with one Colour, not by preparing the Stuffs, but by Methods in imitation of the Patentees, diſcover'd by Treachery from their Servants.

That the Emboſſing of Flowers ſaid to be not mention'd in the Patent, is a material Improvement of the Patentees Invention.

As its being found out by one *Parker*, it was prov'd to the Committee, that the ſaid *Parker* diſcover'd the ſame from one of the Patentees Servants for a Reward.

As to this invention, being a hindrance to other Manufactures, it is very frivolous; foraſmuch as it appears to be a new and diſtinct Improvement of the Woollen Manufacture, whereby only more of the ſame is like to be alter'd and conſum'd

The Objection of raiſing Shares by unfair Methods, is ſo viſibly malicious it deſerves no Anſwer, nothing being intended by the Patentees; but care taken to prevent it, as being a thing moſt likely to be pernicious to their Deſign.

As to the raiſing Eſtates its ſufficiently known, That the Patentees have been at great Expences in what they have already done, and need not be grudg'd the hopes of what may be gotten in the ſhort time they Petition to have the Benefit thereof.

As to hindering the utterers by Extravagant Prizes, They are ſufficiently ſenſible that two burthen Commodities with high Prizes would hinder them of the Profits of a quick return, from which only they can hope to make any conſiderable Advantages.

The Oponents alledge if the Invention be new, the Patent is ſufficient to ſecure it, then not to be call'd a Monopoly, being the Patentees Right by a Statute; nor will it be more ſo for being confirmed by Act of Parliament.

They ſay to Anſwer ſome Petitions and Objections, we have added ſome ſaving Clauſes without their Conſent; but they preſented the Honourable Committee their Clauſes, which were added as they thought fit: That its humbly hoped this Honourable Houſe will prevent this uſeful Invention from going abroad, by encouraging it at Home.

REASONS

Humbly offered for the paſſing a BILL for the Encouraging an Invention of *Damasking*, Striking and fixing Colours into all ſorts of Cloths, Stuffs, &c.

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An Humble Repreſentation to the Honourable the Commons of England *Aſſembled in Parliament, In relation to the Importation of* Sail Cloath *from* Holland.

AT the time of the Prohibition with *France* in King *Charles* the Second's Reign, the *French* had in a manner the ſole Trade of *Sail Cloath*, and very little was made in *Holland*. But ſince then the *Dutch* have ſo greatly improved that Manufacture, and arrived at ſuch perfection in the making thereof, that at this very day they furniſh all their neighbouring Nations with Canvas for Sails, and the *French* have utterly loſt that Trade. By which means *Holland* does now draw from this Kingdom above Two Hundred Thouſand Pounds a Year for this one Commodity, which might be prevented, in giving Encouragement to the making of Sail Cloath in *England*, which already is begun in ſeveral parts of this Kingdom, and brought to good perfection; and it is humbly hoped the Conſideration thereof, will deſerve the Favour and Countenance of this Honourable Houſe: For the Reaſons following, *viz.*

1. The ſetting up this Manufacture will improve the Lands of *England*, and Employ many Thouſands of Poor, by ſetting them to work, and thereby enable them to maintain their Families, and alſo ſupport great numbers of Seamen and Souldiers Wives, in the abſence of their Husbands abroad in the King's Service, by Earning their Bread in the Spining Trade, of which above Two Hundred are now employed in one work of this kind near this City, and many more in the Country.

2. If this Manufacture find Encouragement at Home, ſhould a War happen at any time with *Holland*, we may then be ſupplied with Sail Cloath of our own production, which otherwiſe may prove very difficult to be had in ſuch Quantities, as will enable the ſetting out the Navy Royal to Sea.

3. By making of this Manufacture, and bringing it to perfection, we ſhall leſſen conſiderably the over Ballance of our Trade with *Holland* (which is none of the leaſt Evils that attend us) and thereby prevent the Expence of ſo great a Summ from going Abroad, and Employ the ſame at Home, in one of the beſt and uſefulleſt Manufactures to this Nation.

If therefore this Honourable Houſe ſhall ſo think fit, it is humbly propoſed that ſome further Duty may be Charged on all Sail Cloath Imported, and that his Majeſty may be addreſſed to encourage the making of this Manufacture in *England*, by ſignifying his Royal Pleaſure for the buying all ſuch *Engliſh* made Sail Cloath as can be provided for the uſe of his Navy, and the ſame being of equal goodneſs with *Hollands* Cloath, may have ſuch preference as his Majeſty ſhall think fit: Which Encouragement is not doubted but will, in a few Years, enable the Manufacturers of this Commodity, to ſupply the Nation at Home, as well as the Plantations Abroad.

Note, *That* Sail Cloath, *when Imported, is always Entered as* Vittery Canvas, *which is Rated to pay* 5 s. *Subſidy, and* 2 s. 6 d. *Additional Duty, ſo that when the Deductions of* 5 *and* 10 l. per Cent. *are taken off, it pays but* 6 s. 8 d. *for every Hundred Ells, which is of the Value of Fifteen Pounds to be ſold here.*

☞ From whence pleaſe to obſerve, that this Commodity does pay little above Two *per Cent.* whereas all other Commodities not Rated, do now pay at Value 10 l. *per Cent.*

Reaſons for Encourage-ing the making of Sail Cloath in *England*, without having it from *Holland*.

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REASONS

Humbly offered to the Honourable the House of Commons: Shewing, why an Additional Duty should not be laid on all Sail-cloath imported.

I. TO lay a Duty upon all Sail-cloath imported at this time, will be greatly prejudicial to the interest of his Majesties Navy. All manner of Naval Stores being so considerably advanced since the War, Sail-cloath especially, at least 30. *l. per Cent.*

II. It will be destructive to Trade and Navigation, which at this time labour under many discouragements, of which the dearness of its Preparations is not the least.

III. It is impossible, that all the Sail-cloath made in *England* should furnish one Third of his Majesties Naval occasions, much less that of the whole Nations, and the English Plantations, and Foreigners that have Sails made here.

IV. It will be many years before those making Sail-cloath here, will arrive at that perfection, for quantity and quality to equalize the Dutch.

V. Altho they affirm in their Printed Reasons, that the Dutch arriv'd to their perfection in making Sail-cloath, but since the French Prohibition; the contrary is evident, that it was many years before in the same perfection and general esteem, tho that Prohibition might occasion a greater demand.

VI. They assert what they make to be of equal goodness with that of *Holland*, when the contrary may so easily be demonstrated, as by comparing the one with the other.

VII. If it be granted, that the whole consumption of *Holland* Sail-cloath in this Kingdom amounts to a thousand Peeces *per* Week, or to the value of one hundred and fifty or sixty thousand pounds *per Ann.* which they compute to be two hundred thousand pounds *per Ann.* Then how unable they are to furnish one Moiety thereof, we leave to the wisdom of this Honourable House to determine.

VIII. That if further Impositions be laid on Foreign Sail-cloath, together with the advantage the Makers will take hereof, raising theirs also, it will make all Sail-cloath so extreamly dear, as to necessitate our Merchants and Owners of Shipping, together with Foreigners, that now make Sails here, to furnish themselves in *Holland*, to the utter ruin and destruction of some hundred Families, that are imployed in making Sails in *England*.

IX. From hence it is apparent, that it is a private self interest rather then the welfare and good of the publick, that moves these few Men to desire a further duty to be laid on all Sail-cloath imported.

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REASONS

HUMBLY OFFERED

For farther Encouraging the Making and Manufacturing of SAIL-CLOTH *in* Great-Britain.

I. THE Materials whereof Sail-Cloth is made, are Foreign Hemp and Flax; and they being Bulky Commodities, occaſion a great deal to be paid on Importation for Freight; which inhances the Price conſiderably, and renders *Britiſh* Sail-cloth much dearer than Foreign.

II. THAT the ſaid Manufacture being capable to imploy great Numbers of Ancient Perſons and Children, who otherwiſe muſt want Subſiſtance, and either be reduc'd to beg, or become chargeable to their Pariſhes; It is therefore requiſite, That the Uſe and Wear of the ſame be encouraged in the Plantations and Settlements belonging to the Crown of *Great-Britain*, preferable to any other, as a Manufacture advantageous to their *Mother Nation*; eſpecially when it is and can be made as good as any Foreign Sail-Cloth for Uſe and Service, and only wants due Encouragement to render it as cheap as Foreign to the Conſumer.

III. THAT it is hoped all fitting Encouragement will be given for the Home-Conſumption of the *Britiſh*-made Sail-Cloth, as well for the Imployment of the Poor, as for keeping amongſt ourſelves a Manufacture ſo conſiderable, and ſo uſeful to our Navigation; which will prevent any Neceſſity of our being ſupply'd from Foreigners. By whom the greateſt Part of the Trade and Navigation of this Kingdom hath been hitherto furniſh'd.

THAT, with all Submiſſion, the Increaſe of the ſaid Manufacture may be promoted without laying any farther Duty on Foreign Sail-Cloth: For it is not hereby deſired or intended, either to burthen our Navigation with any farther Charges on Foreign Cloth; or to lay Merchants or Traders under any Reſtrictions to make Uſe of *Britiſh* Sail-Cloth, contrary to their Inclinations.

WHAT is Humbly deſired for the Encouragement of this Uſeful Manufacture, is as followeth.

I. *THAT One Penny* per *Ell more be added to the Penny already given, on the Exportation of all* Britiſh *Sail-Cloth.*

II. *THAT*

II. *THAT the Draw-back on all Foreign Sail-Cloth, which is exported to any of the* Britiſh *Plantations or Settlements, be taken off.*

III. *That One Penny* per *Ell be given to the Conſumer or Worker-up of* Britiſh-made *Sail-Cloth, which ſhall be made for the Uſe and Wear of the Navigation of* Great-Britain.

1. AS to the Bounty deſired by the Firſt Article, it hath been found, That the Penny already given, is not an Equivalent to the Differences of Freight between the Hemp and Flax whereof the *Britiſh* Sail-Cloth is made, and the Foreign: For the Freight of One Hundred Weight of Flax is between Three and Four Shillings; Whereas the Freight of a Boult of Foreign Sail-Cloth is not above as many Pence; and the Flax being generally imported in *Engliſh* Ships, that alſo is a great Encouragement to our Navigation. If, therefore, a Penny more Bounty were added to our Home-made Sail-Cloth exported, it would be a Means to render it cheaper Abroad; and would even then ſcarcely compenſate for the Duty laid on the Hemp and Flax from which the ſaid Cloth is produc'd; which being ſo Beneficial a Manufacture to the Nation, the Materials ſhould be Duty-free.

2. AS to the Second Article, *viz.* For taking off the Draw-back on Foreign Sail-Cloth exported to our Plantations; Thoſe Colonies who claim our Protection, and owe their very Being to *Great Britain*, ſhould contribute all in their Power to the Encouragement and Preference of the Commodities and Manufactures of their Mother-Nation; Which will promote and keep up a reciprocal Friendſhip between them and us, and render their Trade and Commerce much more Uſeful and Beneficial to each other: And eſpecially, as this Manufacture is brought to ſuch Perfection in *England*, that it is equal in Goodneſs to any Foreign Cloth. And when it is render'd as cheap to them as the Foreign, by the Encouragement and Bounty of the Legiſlature, they can make no Difficulty of giving it the deſired Preference.

3. AS to the Third Article, If a Penny *per* Ell were given to the Merchant or Conſumer of *Britiſh* Sail-Cloth, in the Navigation of *Great Britain*, it certainly would very much promote its Uſe and Conſumption: And then this Penny will but be the Difference of the Freight of the Hemp and Flax, and of ſo much Foreign Cloth, which the like Quantity of Hemp and Flax would make when Imported. It is therefore humbly deſired, That, as the Materials for *Britiſh* Sail-Cloth are Foreign, Methods may be taken to render the ſame as Cheap as poſſible to our own Manufacturers, that we may be at leaſt on a Foot with Foreigners in this Reſpect, and be enabled to work as cheap as they: For the Workmanſhip of Dreſſing, Spinning, Whitening, and Weaving a Boult or Piece, amounts to about 1 *l.* 8 *s.* which is all clear Profit to the Poor of the Nation. Hemp and Flax pay a conſiderable Duty, which gives ſtill a great Advantage to Foreigners in the making of their Cloth: Wherefore, it is hoped, that a Penny *per* Ell will be allowed out of the Duty of Hemp and Flax or Foreign Cloth, imported, becauſe no Benefit is prayed for, but what is firſt taken out of the Materials whereof this Manufacture is made: And the Manufacturer, for what is conſumed at Home, will ſtill pay one Penny *per* Ell, either in Freight or Cuſtom, more than the Foreigner doth; the ſaid Freight and Cuſtom amounting to Two Pence *per* Ell, or more; and the Allowance deſired for the Home-Conſumption, being but One Penny. Large Works are already erected, and at preſent, imploy vaſt Numbers of Poor Perſons, which otherwiſe would be deſtitute of Subſiſtance, which makes it requiſite to keep up their ſaid Works, and to preſerve the ſaid Manufacture, as much as can be: For in Caſe it ſhould once be loſt, it may be found very difficult to regain; eſpecially when 'tis conſider'd, That the Labour of the Poor is much dearer in *England*, than it is in moſt Foreign Parts.

AS to the Method of paying One Penny *per* Ell to the Conſumer of *Britiſh* Sail-Cloth, it is apprehended, That if it be allowed to the Sail-maker, who

who muſt live in a Sea-Port, the Conſumer will deduct it off of his Account for Work; and the Penny *per* Ell, to be allowed out of the Duty of Flax and Hemp or Foreign Sail-Cloth Imported, and not otherwiſe.

THAT the Sail-maker ſhall have a Certificate of all *Britiſh*-made Cloth he works up; of whom bought, and to whom ſold; and upon producing the ſame, with an Account for whom he work'd it up, once in Three Months, to the Chief Officer of the Port or Place where he lives, which he ſhall be obliged to do upon Oath, then the Penny *per* Ell ſhall be allowed on the ſaid *Britiſh* Cloth ſo worked up for Home-Conſumption. And all Sail-Makers ſhall be obliged to claim this Bounty not oftner than Three Months, nor to ſtay longer than Six.

IT is objected, That by Increaſing the Manufacture of Sail-Cloth, it would reduce the Importation of Foreign, whereby there will not ariſe any Duty to pay the Bounties. But as there then will be a larger Import of Hemp and Flax to make it of, this will increaſe the Duty under that Head, to anſwer the ſame.

SINCE Sail-Cloth hath been manufactur'd in *Great-Britain* fit for Uſe, Foreign Sail-Cloth is ſold Cheaper than before.

THE late Additional Duty which was laid on Foreign Cloth, on purpoſe to be given as a Bounty to encourage our own, hath hitherto been of very little Benefit to the Manufacturers, by Reaſon of the Difficulties before mentioned in Exporting our Home-made Cloth.

NOTE, Foreign-made Cordage pays a Conſiderable Duty: But to encourage that Manufacture in *Great-Britain*, no Draw-back is allowed upon the Exportation thereof.

N. B. THAT the Penny *per* Ell Duty given on Foreign Cloth for an Encouragement of the *Britiſh*-made Sail-Cloth, ariſes to a conſiderable Sum of Money Yearly; Yet the Manufacturers have received but little Benefit by the ſaid Duty, becauſe the Home-made Sail-Cloth is intitled but to One Penny *per* Ell on Exportation to our Plantations, and the Foreign Cloth is exported thither, and draws back moſt of the Duty it paid Inwards; which defeats the Exportation of our own Cloth; ſo that moſt of that Money raiſed and intended for the Bounty, remains with the Crown.

REASONS

Humbly Offered

For farther Encouraging the Making and Manufacturing of SAIL-CLOTH *in* Great-Britain.

SOME

OBSERVATIONS

In Relation to the

LINEN MANUFACTURES

OF

Great Britain and *Ireland*.

THE Woollen and Linen Manufactures employ the greateſt Numbers of induſtrious Subjects; and thereby they mutually contribute to the Support of each other; and it is the undoubted Intereſt of this Country to encourage thoſe Two Manufactures as much as poſſible.

The Act of Parliament of the 15th and 16th of his preſent Majeſty, which grants a Bounty on Linens, recites, "That the Manufactures of Linens of theſe Kingdoms are greatly *improved* "and *increaſed*; and that thereby the Price of Linens, as well of *Foreign* as of *Home* Fabrick, "hath been conſiderably *reduced*; and that the further *Extenſion* of thoſe Manufactures would "be of great Advantage."

The Linen Manufacture in *England*, is in Quantity very little inferior to that of *Scotland* or *Ireland*.

The Encouragement therefore of the Linen Manufacture, is the immediate Intereſt of *England*, *Scotland*, and *Ireland*; and is more, perhaps, a *common* Concern, than any one Manufacture or Branch of Commerce whatſoever.

But there never was, there never can be, any great National Advantage propoſed by improving Manufactures, or encouraging particular Branches of Commerce; which wont claſh with the *private Intereſt of a Few*, who will give all the Oppoſition they can; of which we have had many Examples, particularly a few Years ago, in the Caſe of the Sail-cloth and Paper.

This is the *preſent* Caſe; they who deal in *Foreign* Linens, are alarmed at the Increaſe of our own Linen Manufactures; and becauſe it is not proper to give their true Reaſons, they have made many ſpecious Objections to the Legiſlature's giving further Encouragement to this Manufacture; of which, the following may deſerve an Anſwer.

Objection I. *Germany* takes great Quantities of our Woollen Manufactures, *&c.* and we are great Gainers by this Trade.

Anſwer. Whatever Goods they take of us, is not out of Compliment, but for their own Advantage; becauſe ſome they can have *no-where elſe*, and the reſt they cannot have *ſo good*, and ſo *cheap*; as ſoon as they can have them cheaper any where elſe, they will leave off taking them from us, as they have lately done with reſpect to Sugars, which they take from the *French*, though the *French* take none of their Linens.

In Trade, it is ridiculous to expect Friendſhip: Both Buyer and Seller will go to the beſt Market; the former, to that where he can buy cheaper; the latter, to the Market where he expects the higheſt Price.

When we may be furniſhed with the ſame Sort of Commodity from Two different Countries, good Policy will direct us to take it from that Country by whom we are Gainers; but, ſurely, *our own People* are to be preferred to both.

By encouraging our own Linens, the Foreign Manufacturers may probably grow poorer, and be obliged to contract their Expences; but that Saving will not affect us, but thoſe only, who furniſh them with the *Luxuries* of Life. They would then ſend that Money to *Britain* yearly for Neceſſaries and Conveniencies, which they now ſend to *France*, *Italy* and *Holland*, for Luxuries.

That

That the Ballance of Trade with *Germany* is in our Favour, is endeavoured to be proved by the Accounts of our *Imports* and *Exports*, from the Cuſtom-houſe.

The Account of *Imports* is not to be depended on, with reſpect to the *Value* ſet on the Goods *imported*; which greatly exceed the Value expreſſed in thoſe Accounts.

Thoſe Accounts make the *Value* of Linens imported yearly from *Germany* on a Medium of Six Years, from 1736 to 1741. to be only £. 623,980. The ſame Accounts make the *Quantity* imported annually on a Medium of the ſame Six Years to be 26,024,692 Yards; which at a Medium of One Shilling *per* Yard amount to £. 1,301,234: This proves the Value of the *Imports* is at leaſt *double* what is expreſſed in thoſe Accounts.

The Account of *Exports* is more uncertain, as to the *Quantities* and *Values*, becauſe in makeing Entries of *Free* Goods for Exportation, Merchants often make *larger Entries* than they intend to export. A *Short* Entry may ſubject them to great Inconveniencies; but from entring a *larger* Quantity than they export, no Inconvenience can happen; and they may thereby ſave the Trouble and Expence of making a new Entry.

The Remarks upon Sir *Iſaac Newton*'s Tables ſay, *The Courſe of Exchange with other Countries, indicates the State of our Commerce, as truly as the Pulſe does that of the human Body*; the Courſe of Exchange between *Hamburgh* and *London*, appears to be above Five *per Cent.* to our Diſadvantage; therefore, upon the Balance, we muſt be great Loſers by our Trade with *Germany*.

The Quantity of Linens ſtamped for Sale in *Scotland*, in 1731, was	3,891,573	Yards.
The *Iriſh* Linens imported into *England* in 1731, was ——	4,081,094	
Total	7,972,667	Yards.
In 1736 there were ſtamped for Sale in *Scotland* ——	4,538,478	
Imported from *Ireland*, —— —— ——	7,054,699	
Total	11,593,177	Yards.
In 1739. there were ſtamp'd in *Scotland* —— —— ——	4,801,537	
Imported from *Ireland* —— —— —— ——	6,590,084	
Total	11,391,621	Yards.

Beſide this, there has ſince 1731. been a Great Increaſe of the Linen Manufacture in *England*, as well for private Uſe as for Sale.

And yet, if Credit is to be given to the Accounts of Imports and Exports between *England* and *Germany*——This very Great *Extenſion* and *Increaſe* of the Linen Manufacture, hath not *leſſened* the Value of our *Exports* to *Germany*; on the Contrary, thoſe Accounts ſay, Our Exports have *increaſed* during that Period, in the following Proportions.

Value of our EXPORTS to *Germany*.

1731	£. 960,858	1738	£. 1,077,922
1732	1,052,977	1739	1,087,685
1733	1,083,157	1740	1,091,061
1734	1,106,573	1741	1,143,961
1735	1,197,263	1742	1,319,758
1736	1,246,387	1743	1,831,932
1737	1,207,479		

Objection II. That the Demand for home-made Linens is ſo great, that thrice the Quantity thereof might be ſold, if the ſame could be made and bought for a *reaſonable* Price; and, that the Manufacturers cannot want a *Foreign* Market, before they are able to ſupply *This*.

Anſwer I. As to *Middling* Linens, from Two to Three Shillings, which imitate thoſe made in *Holland*, the Home-Manufacturers make and ſell them as *cheap* as the Foreign; and there are more made than the Market will take off.

But the Caſe is quite otherwiſe, with reſpect to *Oſnaburghs* and other coarſe Brown Linens, imported from *Germany*, where Flax and Labour are ſo much cheaper than they are in theſe Kingdoms, that Experience has ſhewn, the Going to Market *at home*, by means of the Duty 15 *per Cent.* or to the Plantations, by means of the Bounty, 13 *per Cent. cheaper* than Fo-

reigners

Foreigners, is not Encouragement ſufficient to the Home-Manufacturers of *Oſnaburghs* or other Brown Linens.

As to the *Home-Market*, the Encouragement cannot be increaſed, but by laying an additional Duty on foreign Linens —— which would be objected to. But the Market for the Plantations may be encouraged by taking off the Drawback, or by encreaſing the Bounty.

Objection III. The Encouraging the Home Manufacture, will raiſe the Price of Linens.

Anſwer. If it would do ſo, no Dealer in Foreign Linens would ever oppoſe it; becauſe, in that Caſe, he would certainly be enabled to ſell greater Quantities of Foreign Linens, or to a greater Profit than he does at preſent: The Truth is, it would reduce the Price of Foreign Linens at our Home-Market, by preventing their being ſent to our Plantations with the ſame Advantage they are at preſent. This is the Conſequence the Dealers in Foreign Linens are afraid of.

Objection IV. The diſcouraging the Importation of Foreign Linens, will be a great Diſadvantage to our Trade and Navigation in general.

Anſwer. As to our *Navigation*, we cannot poſſibly ſuffer in any Part of it, but in that which is made uſe of for importing Foreign Linens into *Great Britain*; and every one knows, that moſt of the coarſe Foreign Linens are imported in Foreign Bottoms.

As to our *Trade*, it is a little ſurpriſing to hear it ſaid, our Trade would ſuffer by furniſhing our Plantations, or our Home-Conſumption, with of our *own*, inſteadof Foreign Manufactures.

On the contrary, our Trade, and the Number of our People, uſefully employed, would greatly increaſe, our Lands would be improved, our Rents raiſed, our Poor's Rates diminiſhed, our Woollen and every other Manufacture increaſed, and a great Addition made to our publick Revenue, by augmenting the Number of our taxable People.

The Encouragement given by Parliament to the Exportation of *Britiſh*-made Sail-cloth, amounted on the coarſeſt Sorts to Fifty *per Cent.* and on the other Sorts on a Medium, to from Thirty to Forty *per Cent.*

By the Statute of the Twelfth of Queen *Anne* c. 16, a new Duty of One Peny *per* Ell was laid on foreign Sail-cloth, as a Fund to pay a Bounty of One Peny *per* Ell on all *Britiſh* Sail-cloth, exported as Merchandize.

	per Cent.	
One Peny *per* Ell on foreign Sail-cloth of Ten-pence the Ell, is ——	10	
One Peny *per* Ell Bounty on *Britiſh*, is —— —— ——	10	
This Encouragement not proving ſufficient, there was in 1731. a further Bounty granted of One Peny *per* Ell —— —— ——	10	*Theſe laſt Encouragements gave us Poſſeſſion of the Manufacture.*
The *Drawback* on foreign was taken off —— —— ——	15	
The Flax exempted from Duty —— —— —— ——	5	
	50	

And the Reſult proved the Wiſdom of granting them ——

We ſtill pay Two Millions a Year to Foreigners for Linens. If we could ſave any Part of this by a proper Encouragement of our own Manufacture, it would add to our national Stock of Gold and Silver.

No Nation takes any thing from us, but what they muſt neceſſarily have; what they muſt have, they muſt pay for; if they do not pay for it in Linens, they muſt pay for it in other Commodities; if they have no Commodities we want, they muſt pay us in Gold and Silver.

Many Parts of *Germany*, and the *North*, are endeavouring to incroach upon us in the Woollen Manufacture; is it not prudent to make Repriſals in the Linen?

Therefore, it is humbly hoped, the encouraging this Manufacture de
the Attention of every Gentleman who has a Concern for the P
of his Country.

SOME OBSERVATIONS

In Relation to the

Linen Manufacturers

OF

Great Britain and *Ireland*.

SOME
REASONS
Moſt Humbly Offered

For Taking off the Additional Duty of 8 l. per *Tun, laid upon* Linſeed-Oil, *by an Act of Parliament made in the Second Year of His preſent, and Her late Majeſties Reign: And continued by another Act made in the Fourth and Fifth of Their ſaid Majeſties Reign, until the* 10th. *of* Novemb. 1697.

1*ſt*. THAT His Majeſty is a conſiderable Loſer thereby; and that the ſame occaſions loſs in the Duty of Tunnage upon Ships, and prejudice to Navigation.

Inaſmuch as when the ſaid Oil paid but 3 *l*. 10 *s*. *per* Tun Duty, His Majeſty received almoſt double what he hath done ſince the ſaid Additional Duty of 8 *l*. *per* Tun: By reaſon when the ſaid Oil paid but 3 *l*. 10 *s*. *per* Tun, there was uſually about 300 Tuns yearly Imported; but ſince the Additional Duty, not above 50 Tun *per Ann*. hath been Imported. The which is moſt evident, by the Entries in the Cuſtom-houſe Books; and conſequently, His Majeſty loſeth the Tunnage of 250 Tun *per Ann*. beſides the prejudice Navigation receives thereby.

2*dly*. The ſaid Additional Duty (if continued) muſt unavoidably prove the utter Ruine of the Company and Corporation of Painterſtainers of the City of *London*, and others of the ſame Trade in *England*, as alſo prejudicial to many others uſing Linſeed-Oil.

Inaſmuch as the ſaid Oil is the moſt Eſſential thing uſed in the ſaid Trade, and that the ſaid Additional Duty doth almoſt Tantamount to a prohibition thereof; and cauſeth the ſame to be ſo dear, that 'tis impoſſible to exerciſe the ſaid Trade, unleſs an equivolent Advance for Work could be obtained, (which cannot be;) ſo that the want thereof is abſolute ruine to the ſaid Trade, and many hundreds of Families: And the doing thereof, would be an unneceſſary Advance upon the Subject, when the ſame is no Advantage to the Crown.

Object. *If about* 300 *Tun was Imported before the Additional Duty, and but about* 50 *Tun ſince, How hath the conſumption been ſupplied?*

Anſw. The ſaid Additional Duty requiring ſo much Ready-Money from the Importer, 'tis not worth while to Import: And the ſame Duty makes it worth while to make the ſaid Oil in *England*; and accordingly it is ſo done by one or two Perſons, who can make enough to ſupply the conſumption, and ſufficiently enrich themſelves, by only the gaining the Additional Duty; by which the Subject is oppreſſed, His Majeſty a Loſer, Navigation prejudiced, and no Manufacture of this Nation advanced or furthered.

All which being conſidered, 'tis humbly hoped ſome Remedy for Relief will be found, by the Members of the Honourable House of Commons, *to prevent the utter Ruine of the ſaid Trade, and the Deſtruction of many hundreds of Families in* England *depending thereon.*

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PROPOSALS

FOR

Drying of Malt with Hot Air;

INVENTED,

And brought to Perfection,

BY

JOHN BUSBY, Eſq;

Fellow of the Royal Society.

THIS Inventor having been at great Expence in making Experiments, new Buildings, Alterations, &c. has at laſt brought to very great Perfection, a Kiln to dry Malt, with hot Air, ſo that in the ſaid Kiln he can dry off a greater Quantity in leſs time, and with almoſt half the Expence of Feuel, than other Maltſters ſhall be able to do in a Kiln of the like Dimenſions: He therefore deſires to have it obſerv'd,

I. THAT the Malt ſo dried proves very bright; and far better taſted, than *England* hitherto has been able to produce, as having nothing but clear Air paſſing thro' Fire, in convenient

venient Receptacles, to dry it, and may be dry'd to what Colour the Maltſter ſhall think fit.

II. THAT in the ſaid Kiln you may burn either Turf, Pete, Coals, Wood, or any combuſtible Matter, without the leaſt Smoak coming to the Malt; and that a Kiln may be dry'd off for near the Expence the mere coaking the Coals will come to, and the Aſhes will ſerve to manure either Gardens or Lands.

III. THAT the Expence more than a common Kiln (the Receptacles made of Iron) will be made under twenty Pounds, tho' the Kiln be made of that Extent as to dry off fourteen or fifteen hundred Quarter in the Seaſon. Any old Kiln may with eaſe have all proper Conveniences made for this way of drying: And altho' crucible Clay might ſerve tolerably well, it is more adviſable to uſe Iron, becauſe it will laſt much longer, and when diſpos'd of, will leſſen the firſt Expence conſiderably.

IV. THAT not only Malt, but Hops, Beans, or Oats for Meal, *&c.* may be dry'd far cheaper, and with more eaſe; and for a little more Expence the Kiln may be ſo contrived, as to dry Hops and Malt, or any Grain, at the ſame time; and, if occaſion be, one Perſon is capable of attending ſeveral Kilns, not far diſtant from each other, it being requiſite to turn the Malt, or renew the Fire, but once in three or four Hours, and impoſſible to ſet the Kiln on fire.

V. THAT this Invention has been experimented, and brought to Perfection about twelve Months paſt, and ſome hundred Quarters dry'd off; which Malt has been approv'd of by the Gentlemen in the County of *Bucks*, eſpecially that part of it near where the Kiln was made, (at Mr. *Saunders*'s at *Brill*, *Bucks*, near *Thame*, *Oxfordſhire*) where the Kiln may be ſeen, and Samples of the Malt had; and the Inventor is now giving Orders for the Alteration of Old, and building New Kilns, in ſeveral other Parts of the County.

VI. That this Invention, proving for the general Good, not only in leſſening the Expence in Feuel, making the Malt better and ſweeter, but in greatly advancing and improving impoveriſh'd Lands, (by the great Quantity of Straw formerly

merly made uſe of in drying, which may now be turn'd to Fodder, Manure, or whatever uſe the Farmer ſhall think fit) his Majeſty has been graciouſlly pleaſed to grant his Letters Patents for the ſole Uſe of this Inventor, for fourteen Years, in Recompence for the great Expence the ſaid Inventor has been at in bringing all things to Perfection.

THE Premiſſes being duly conſider'd, this Inventor propoſes to all Maltſters which have a mind to dry after this Method, to put up, or alter any Kiln (they being at the Expence) to make as many hundred Quarter in the Seaſon as they ſhall think fit, provided they will conſent to pay the Inventor for every Kiln ſo made that can dry off an hundred Quarters, or leſs, the Sum of one Guinea in Hand, towards the Expence of the Patent, and twenty Shillings *per Annum* during the Term of the Patent. But for thoſe Kilns which will dry off ſeveral hundred Quarters (more than the before-mentioned hundred Quarter) the Maltſter ſhall pay five Shillings *per* hundred Quarter in Proportion, not exceeding ten hundred Quarter in the whole. For whatſoever is above, if to twelve or fifteen hundred Quarter, Payment is required but for one thouſand Quarter in proportion, as above.

AND further it is propoſed, that if any Maltſter is not willing to put up, or alter any Kiln at his own Expence, the Proprietor will be at the whole Charge, provided he may be allowed five Pound *per Cent* for the Money laid out, and be paid in Proportion as above ſpecified, in caſe it anſwers, and be allowed to take away the Iron at the Expiration of the Patent, and be reimburs'd three Fourths of the firſt Expence. But if the Maltſters will continue their Kiln, paying down the firſt Expence for the Materials, the Kiln in that caſe becomes their own Property.

If the Perſons deſirous to come into this Method will come to the Proprietor of the Patent, at his Chambers N°. 11. *Coney-Court Grays-Inn*, *London*, or to Mr. *Pole* Merchant in the *Old Jewry*, *London*, or to Mr. *Saunders* in *Brill*, *Bucks*, they will have ſufficient Satisfaction, and be put in a way how to proceed.

A New and Profitable Invention, for Drying Malt of Oates, &c. on a ſort of Tyles or Bricks, which far Exceeds thoſe Methods, before in Uſe among us, in ſeveral reſpects, viz.

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Firſt, THey are Durable, 'tis probable, for Ages.

Secondly, They are ſafe from the Danger of Fire, which hath proved fatal in many Places.

Thirdly, They Dry with much leſs Fire (and if required) in ſhorter time than hath been known before; and 'tis obſerved, that the Fewel which is ſaved in a (Well-cuſtom'd) *Kiln*, will in a ſhort time defray the Charge of the *Tyles*, and the expence of *Hair-Cloth* (and ſtraw under it, where it is ſo uſed) being both taken off, muſt make the *Kiln* of much more Advantage for the future.

Fourthly, By raiſing or leſſening the Fire, the *Malt*, &c. may be Dryed hard or ſlack, and made Pale, or High Coloured, as deſired.

Fifthly, The *Malt* and *Meal* dryed thereon, is ſweeter, better, and finer Coloured, than that which is otherways Dryed.

Sixthly, One half generally (but never more than two parts in three) of the Ribs or Lats formerly uſed, are ſufficient to ſupport theſe *Tyles*, which preſerve more of the Cummings of the *Malt*, than were ſaved before.

Seventhly, A piece of a *Kiln* full of *Oats* hath frequently been well Dryed (by the long continuing heat of the ſaid Floor) after the former Corn is taken off, without any addition of Fewel, and the Dryſter hath leſs labour than formerly.

For the ſole making, uſing and vending of the aforeſaid *Tyles* or *Bricks*, a *Patent* was lately granted by his Majeſty to *John Shallcroſs* of *Stockport*, in the County of *Cheſter*, Eſq; (and his Aſſigns) by whoſe order any Perſon may be furniſhed with them; and he is alſo willing to Contract with, or Depute any Perſon or Perſons, to Make and Sell the ſaid Goods, on ſuch Terms as will tend Conſiderably to their own Benefit and Advantage, expecting nothing (but in Proportion to, and) until the ſaid Goods ſhall be ſold, to pay the ſame.

The ſaid *Tyles* are tryed and approved of, at and about all the Places hereafter named, and are to be Sold at the ſaid Towns, and will in a ſhort time be expoſed to Sale in moſt of the conſiderable Towns, in *England* and *Wales*. The Price (excepting Carriage) is 3 *s.* 6 *d. per* ſquare yard, of flat meaſure, where Coals are not above 6 *d. per* C. weight.

From the good Succeſs of the Tryals already made, the Patentee offers, That if the ſaid *Tyles* are (any where) diſapproved of, and Returned in a Month's time from the Receiving them, the Price (if Received) ſhall be Repaid.

This

This mark (*) shews what Places (with several Miles round them) are already taken under the *Patentee*, by Persons respectively, to Make and Sell the said Goods within the Compass limitted to them.

Barkshire

Bedfordshire

Buckinghamshire

Cambridgeshire

Cornwal

Cumberland

Cheshire
Stockport
Congleton

Derbyshire
* *Chesterfeild*
Chappel-fryth

Devonshire

Dorsetshire

Durham

Essex

Glouceſterſhire

Hampshire

Hartfordshire

Herefordshire

Huntingtonshire

Kent

Lancashire
Warrington
Manchester
Chorley

Leicestershire

Lincolnshire

Norfolk

Northamtonshire

Nottinghamshire
Warsop
* *Mansfield*
Nottingham

Oxfordshire

Rutlandshire

Somersetshire

Staffordshire
* *New-castle*
* *Stafford*
* *Stone*

Shropshire
* *Salop*
Bridgenorth

Suffolk

Surry

Sussex

Warwickshire

Wiltshire

Worcesterſhire

Westmorland

Yorkshire

The CASE of the *Free Diſtillers*;

With Reference to the

Drawing and Diſtilling of Spirits from MALT.

IF it ſhall conſiſt with the Wiſdom of Parliament to Reſtrain that Conſumption of Corn, which of late hath been in this Kingdom, by Diſtilling, to any certain Yearly limitted quantity of Malts, then it is humbly propoſed, That the Benefit of the Working of ſuch limitted quantity of Malts, may not be confined to any Small Number of Men, who are now in that way of Trade, but that all *Free Diſtillers* may (according to their Ancient and Unqueſtionable Right of Working) have free liberty to Share in the Benefits thereof:

And that for the Reaſons following.

I. The preſent Body of the *Free Diſtillers* conſiſts of above Four Hundred Members, and the Number of the Perſons now uſing the Malt Diſtilling Trade, are but few (if any) above Twenty, and ſome of them no *Free Diſtillers*, but Interlopers, and others Exciſe-men; and how great a Hardſhip may it be eſteem'd, that ſo great a part of the Diſtillers Trade ſhould be Confined and Aſſured to ſo Small a Number, and they ſuch Perſons?

II. The Confinement of Diſtilling from Malt to this Small Number of Men, will unavoidably greatly Encourage and Facilitate the Perſons concerned therein, in their Combining and Confederating together, in ſetting (almoſt) what Prices they pleaſe, both upon the Malts fit for their Uſe and Purpoſe, and the Spirits Drawn from thoſe Malts; to the great Prejudice, not only, of all others Concern'd in the Trade, but alſo of the King's Subjects in general.

This being Matter of Fact, it is humbly hoped, That this Honourable Houſe will Direct nothing in this Weighty Affair, that ſhall be Injurious to the Society of the *Free Diſtillers*.

THE CASE OF THE *Free Diſtillers.*

R England
Commons

Reaſons humbly Offered to the Honourable Houſe of Commons, why a greater Duty ſhould be laid on the preſent Stock of Malt in hand, then upon other Goods.

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1. MALT being the Manufacture of *Barley*, which is the growth of our own Countrey, there does not appear to be any reaſon why a greater Duty ſhould be laid upon it then upon any other Goods, or Commoditys whatſoever.

If Malt be ſuppoſed to be at 20*s. per.* Quarter, which is the now general Price, and ſix Pence a Buſhel (as propoſed) be laid upon it, then the Tax will amount to 4*s* for every 20*s* whereas upon all other Stock in Trade, there is no more then 10*s.* for every twenty Pounds.

2. The burthen of the Tax upon the ſtock of Malt in hand, will inevitably fall upon the Malſter, for the Brewers have laid in Stocks ſufficient to ſerve them for a conſiderable time; and the Malſters will be neceſſitated to ſell their Malt immediatly to raiſe Mony to pay the Tax, and the Brewers being ſo well ſtored before hand, will not buy but upon Terms very diſadvantagious to the Malſter, in which reſpect Malt is diſtinguiſhed from other Goods, becauſe they are generally ſold by Retaile two Stocks laid up before hand, and therefore whatever Tax is laid upon other Goods, is pay'd by the Buyer and Conſumptioner, which is not ſo in the Caſe of Malt.

3. The Caſe of Malt is differant from what it was at the time of the laſt Tax; for then the Brewers having not laid in any great Stores before hand, were neceſſitated to Buy immediatly after the Duty laid upon it, which occaſioned the riſe of Malt at that time.

4. It will be very hard to lay ſuch a Tax as will ruin the greateſt part of the Malſters and will be but an inconſiderable Eaſe to the reſt of the Nation.

For which Reaſons it is humbly hoped that no greater Tax will be laid upon the Stock of Malt in Hand, then upon the Stock in other Trades.

Reasons Humbly Offered to the Honourable House of Commons, why a greater Duty should be laid on the present Stock of Malt in hands, then upon other Goods.

MAlt the growth of our own Country, there does not appear to be any reason why a greater Duty should be laid upon it, then upon any other Goods, or Commodity whatsoever.

If Malt be supposed to be at 25 s. per Quarter, which is the now general Price, and 8 s. Fence a Barrel (as proposed) be laid upon it, then the Tax will amount to 4 s. for every Quarter; whereas upon all other Stock in Trade, there is no more then 1 s. for every twenty Pounds.

2. The burthen of the Tax upon the Stock of Malt in hand, will inevitably fall upon the Malster, for the Brewers have all in Stocks sufficient to serve them for a considerable time; and the Malsters will be necessitated to sell their Malt immediately after the Duty laid upon it, which occasioned the Mischief of Malt at that time.

3. It will be very hard to lay such a Tax as will ruine the greatest part of the Malsters and will be but an uncertain Help to the relief of the Nation.

SOME
REASONS

Humbly offer'd to the Honourable Houſe of Commons, why a Duty ſhould not be laid on the preſent Stock of Malt in Hand.

1. BEcauſe the preſent Stock of Malt in Hand is charg'd as much to other Aids and Taxes, as the preſent Stock of any other Traders, and a Duty may as well be laid (with as little loſs to them that pay it) on any other trading Stock, as on the preſent Stock of Malt in Hand.

2. Becauſe ſuch a Duty will wholly fall on the Malſter that actually pays it, as before in the late Malt Duty, when the price of Malt declining more about the expiration, then it Advanced when that Duty firſt commenc'd, renders it undeniable, that all the Duty on the then preſent Stock of Malt, was reſpectively born by them that paid it: (Tho it can't be believed, that the *Parliament* which laid that Duty, deſign'd or thought of ſo great a loſs to the Malſter, as by experience it was found to be:) Beſides the advance of the price of Malt at the commencement of the ſaid Duty, muſt be imputed to the then bad ſeaſons, and ſcarcity of that Commodity; which tho' it advanc'd in about a Year and a half after to 40 s. *per* Quarter in many places, it was occaſion'd ſolely by the foregoing wet Years, and rots of Sheep, which uſually manure the Land: And makes it almoſt indiſputable, that the riſe attending that Duty would nevertheleſs have been.

3. Becauſe it will be exceeding hard, that a Duty ſhould be laid on the preſent Stock, which has been bought, and laid in on no ſuch conſideration, and the Malſter altogether incapable of raiſing the Markets anſwerable thereunto: For the riſe and fall of Malt depending on the ſcarcity and plenty thereof, and on the courſeneſs and goodneſs of the Seaſons, plainly ſhews, that the Malſter cannot command the Markets.

4. Becauſe in caſe of a Duty of *6 d. per* Buſhel on the Stock of Malt in Hand, it will appear that (ſuppoſing Malt at *20 s. per.* Quarter) the ſaid Stock will pay Twenty times as much (at 5 *l. per cent*) to ſuch a Duty as other Stocks, and real Eſtates do to a 4 *s.* Aid; for the Stock of Malt will then pay 4 *s. per* Pound Principal, and the other but 4 *s. per.* Pound Intereſt or Rent: but the Malt in many places is worth but 16 *s. per.* Quarter, and then Diſproportion is far the greater.

5. From all which it doth evidently appear, that in caſe of ſuch a Duty of *6 d. per.* Buſhel on the preſent Stock of Malt in Hand, many Malſters (the greateſt part of whoſe Eſtates are now in Malt) will be deprived of a 5th, if not a 4th part of the ſame: And worſe will be the condition of many among them that borrow moſt of their trading Stock.

6. Such a Duty being laid on a very ſmall number of His Majeſty's Subjects, in compariſon to the whole Nation, tho' it will tend to their particular Ruin, yet will be but of little eaſe to the Publick in general.

For which Reaſons (and many more that might be given) it is humbly hoped, that the Caſe of the Malſters preſent Stock may be taken into conſideration; So that whereas the Duty on Malt being continued ſix Months longer than already Voted, it would (as 'tis probably ſuppoſed) amount to as much or a greater Sum, and the Duty on the preſent Stock of Malt (which is ſo very hard on the Malſter) might be then excuſed, and the Duty by that means more Univerſally born.

The Case of the Malt-Tickets

1698

In the Eight and Ninth Years of His Majesty's Reign.

A Clause of an Act for Granting to His Majesty certain Duties upon Malt, Mum, Sweets, Cyder, *and* Perry, *as well towards carrying on the War against* France, *as for the necessary Expences of His Majesty's Houshold, and other Occasions.*

AND be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all the Moneys of the Duties upon *Malt*, by this Act granted, which shall be brought and paid into the Receipt of His Majesty's Exchequer, from time to time, in Specie, shall be there appropriated, issued and applied; and the same are hereby appropriated to, and for the Payment and Satisfaction of such Moneys as shall be due upon Bills or Tickets herein after mentioned: And in case the said Duties upon *Malt*, by this Act granted, shall appear to be so deficient or low in the Produce of the same, as that the Money thereby arising and brought into the Exchequer, in Specie, before the Twentieth Day of *April* 1698, for the purpose aforesaid, shall not amount to Eight hundred thousand Pounds, then the Deficiency thereof, or so much as will make up the said Sum of Eight hundred thousand Pounds, shall be made good and supplied out of the first Aid to be granted in Parliament, after the said Twentieth Day of *April* 1698, and shall be transferred thereunto, as soon as the same shall be granted: And if all the Moneys arising by the said Duties upon *Malt* hereby granted, which shall be brought into the Exchequer before the Nine and twentieth Day of *September*, 1699; together with the Money, which in the mean time, shall have been supplied to make good a Deficiency (if any such be) as aforesaid, shall not in the whole amount to Fifteen hundred and fifteen thousand Pounds, that then so much as shall be wanting to make up the said whole Sum of Fifteen hundred and fifteen thousand Pounds, shall be supplied and made good out of the first Aid to be granted in Parliament, after the said Nine and twentieth Day of *September*, 1699, and shall be transferred thereunto as soon as the same shall be granted.

Fol. 453.

Note, that on the 20th of April, 1698. there was deficient above 400000 l. of the 800000l. which should have been paid by that Day, or provided for.

And as a farther Assurance of an exact Compliance, the the Honourable House did Vote,

March 28th, 1699.

Resolved, That Provision be made for Paying and Discharging all Principal and Interest due on such of the *Malt-Tickets*, as are, or shall be deficient.

February 15th, 1$\frac{699}{700}$.

Resolved, That a Supply be granted to His Majesty, towards making good the Deficiences upon *Malt Tickets*.

April *the 10th*, 1701. *The late House made this following Resolution.*

Resolved, That the Paying off, and Cancelling Exchequer-Bills, and Malt-Tickets, will be a great Encouragement to Trade, and a Support of the Publick Credit.

The CASE of the *MALT-TICKETS.*

In the Eighth and Ninth Years of His Majesty's Reign,

A Clause of an Act for Granting to His Majesty certain Duties upon Malt, Mum, Sweets, Cyder *and* Perry, *as well towards carrying on the War against* France, *as for the Necessary Expences of His Majesties Houshold, and other Occasions.*

Folio 453. AND be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that all the Moneys of the Duties upon *Malt* by this Act granted, which shall be brought and paid into the Receipt of His Majesties *Exchequer* from Time to Time in *Specie*, shall be there appropriated, issued and applyed, and the same are hereby appropriated to and for the Payment and Satisfaction of such Moneys as shall be due upon Bills or Tickets herein aftermentioned: And in case the said Duties upon *Malt*, by this Act granted, shall appear to be so Deficient or Low in the Produce of the same, as that the Money thereby arising and brought into the *Exchequer* in *Specie* before the Twentieth day of *April*, 1698, for the Purpose aforesaid, shall not amount to Eight Hundred Thousand Pounds, then the Deficiency thereof, or so much as will make up the said Sum of Eight Hundred Thousand Pounds, shall be made good and supplied out of the first Aid to be granted in Parliament after the said Twentieth Day of *April*, 1698, and shall be Transferred thereunto as soon as the same shall be granted: And if all the Moneys arising by the said Duties upon *Malt* hereby granted, which shall be brought into the *Exchequer* before the Nine and Twentieth Day of *September*, 1699, together with the Money which in the mean time shall have been supplyed to make good a Deficiency (if any such be) as aforesaid, shall not in the whole amount to Fifteen Hundred and Fifteen Thousand Pounds, that then so much as shall be wanting to make up the said whole Sum of Fifteen Hundred and Fifteen Thousand Pounds shall be supplyed and made good out of the first Aid to be Granted in Parliament after the said Nine and Twentieth day of *September* 1699, and shall be Transferred thereunto as soon as the same shall be Granted.

In the Tenth and Eleventh Years of His Majesty's Reign,

A Clause of an Act for laying further Duties upon Sweets, *and for Lessening the Duties as well upon* Vinegar, *as upon certain* Low Wines, *&c.*

Folio 360. AND *whereas* the Duties granted to His Majesty by one Act of Parliament, Intituled, *An Act for granting to His Majesty certain Duties upon* Malt, Mum, Sweets, Cyder *and* Perry, *as well towards carrying on the War against* France, *as for the Necessary Expences of His Majesties Houshold*, are likely to Expire before they have fully answer'd and satisfied the Ends and Purposes for which they were Granted. *And whereas* the Commons in Parliament Assembled have declared, They will make good all such Deficiencies as shall happen upon the falling short of the said Duties. *And whereas* there is a small Interest of a Farthing a day allowed by the last Recited Act, upon several Bills or Tickets commonly called *Malt-Lottery Tickets*: Now for the Advancing the Credit and Value of the said Bills or Tickets, be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that from and after the 25th day of *March*, in the Year of our Lord 1699, upon every such Bill or Ticket, carrying the said Interest of a Farthing a day (other than such Bills or Tickets that shall be Paid off and Discharged by the Duty now chargeable with the same) an Additional Interest of One Farthing a day shall be allowed and paid respectively upon every such Bill or Ticket, until such Bill or Ticket shall be fully Paid off and Discharged.

And as a farther Assurance of an Exact Complyance, The *HONOURABLE HOUSE* did Vote,

March 28th, 1699.

RESOLVED, That Provision be made for Paying and Discharging all Principal and Interest due on such of the *Malt-Tickets* as are or shall be Deficient.

February 15th, 1699.

RESOLVED, That a Supply be Granted to His Majesty towards making Good the Deficiencies upon *Malt-Tickets.*

THE CASE OF THE Malt-Tickets.

The CASE *of the* Annuitants, Subſcribers, *and* Bond-Creditors *of the* MERCERS *Company.*

ON the 11th of *November* 1698, Doctor *William Aſhton* made a Propoſal to the *Mercers Company* for granting Annuities at the Rate of 30 *per Cent.* to the Widows of ſuch Clergymen and others, as ſhould, during their Marriage, ſubſcribe and pay in to the Company 100*l.* or more; the ſaid Subſcriptions not to exceed 100,000 *l.* in the whole.

This Propoſal came very *opportunely* to the Company's Relief, who having by their expenſive Buildings after the Fire of *London* contracted a Debt of near 60,000*l.* were hereby *unexpectedly* furniſhed with the Means of diſcharging the Whole at once: Such an Offer therefore, under ſuch Circumſtances, could not but prove very acceptable; and accordingly, *this* was immediately referred to a Committee, with Directions to conſider what *Security* the Company had in their Power to give.

The *Scheme* itſelf does not appear to have taken up much Deliberation; but the Difficulty with the Committee ſeems to have been, how they ſhould make up a *ſatisfactory Security*; for they were aware that the *neat* Rents of the Eſtates they propoſed to ſettle, being at that Time but 2,888*l.* 8*s.* 8*d.* *per Annum*, would be thought trifling and inſufficient; and therefore, by ſome Calculation [not recorded in their Minutes, but only in general *ſaid* to be a *very moderate* one] they prevailed on the Doctor to believe, that the neat Rents of thoſe Eſtates would in a few Years be improved to above 13,500*l.* *per Annum*; and accordingly the Doctor (who does not appear to have been at all apprized of the Company's *Debts*, and who therefore might ſuppoſe they were to make an *Intereſt* of the Subſcription-Money) approved of the propoſed Settlement, together with the Company's *Bond* to each Subſcriber, (by way of Charge on their *perſonal* Eſtate) as a reaſonable Security.

Matters being thus adjuſted between the Committee and Dr. *Aſhton*, and reported to the General Court on the 23d of *December* 1698, it was thought proper to adjourn the Conſideration to another Day, that (as was alledged) all the Members of the Company might have time to conſider the Propoſal, and be the better enabled to come to a Reſolution.

On the 13th of *January* following, the Conſideration was accordingly reſumed, and in the End the Propoſal accepted; and on the 8th of *February* the Court of Aſſiſtants publiſhed the Scheme in Print; giving the World to underſtand, that it had not taken its riſe from the Company, but had been propoſed to them by *a publick-ſpirited Clergyman* [*a Reverend Doctor in Divinity, Rector of* Beckenham *in* Kent *and Chaplain to his Grace the Duke of* Ormond] who from a Motive of Charity to poor Widows, particularly thoſe of the Clergy too often left unprovided, had planned this Method for their Support; and who conſidering where the Subſcription-Money might be ſafely lodged, had thought it could not be better ſecured than in the Hands of *the Worſhipful Company of Mercers*; and therefore had *prevailed* on them (after much Conſideration) to accept it.

On the firſt of *March* 1698, the Company opened their Subſcription; but the ſame not happening to fill ſo faſt as they expected, the General Court thought it adviſable to *mend* the former Propoſal, and make it more *extenſive*; and accordingly on the 16th of *June* following, directed the Settlement (which, at firſt, was not to have

have been made till the *whole* 100,000*l.* ſhould be ſubſcribed) to be *forthwith* made; *enlarged* the Time of Subſcribing *indefinitely*, which they had before confined to the 24th of *June* 1699; gave Liberty to *all* married Men of 30 Years of Age, or under, to ſubſcribe as far as 1000*l.* and thoſe of 40, or under, as far as 500*l.* tho' before, the *higheſt* Subſcription ſtood *limited* to 300*l.*: And (notwithſtanding the Scheme was by Dr. *Aſhton* deſigned, and by the Company expreſly declared to be for the Support of *Widows* only) agreed to admit of Subſcriptions in Favour of *any other* Perſons the Subſcribers ſhould by Will appoint to enjoy the Annuities during the Lives of their reſpective Widows; and laſtly, promiſed to commence the Payments of the Annuities *two Months* ſooner than had been at firſt propoſed.

Theſe Amendments had the deſired Effect in quickning the Subſcriptions; ſo as to make the Company not only eaſy for the preſent, but for ſome time able, with great punctuality, to diſcharge the Annuities that became due.

But at length, towards the Cloſe of the Year 1716, the *Principal* of the Subſcription-Money beginning to be conſiderably affected by the due Payment of the Annuities, it became neceſſary to alter the Scheme, and make it more *ſupportable* to the Company; and accordingly, in *March* 1716, on Pretence of the Reduction of the National Intereſt to 5*l. per Cent.* (which had taken place two Years and an Half before) the General Court, by Advice of the Committee, reduced their Annuities on all future Subſcriptions to 25*l. per Cent.*

On this Footing they continued for about ſix Years; but the Company finding their Danger not ſo much diminiſhed by the ſaid Reduction of their Annuities, as enlarged by the Increaſe of their Debt on the Subſcriptions, a Committee was on the 17th of *March* 1722 appointed by the General Court to conſider, *Whether it would be proper for them to continue taking in Subſcriptions any longer*; and, if ſo, in what Manner it would be beſt to do it.

The Committee adviſed their *continuing* to take in Subſcriptions; which though limited to 20*l. per Cent.* could only ſerve to bring in a little *ready* Money, and thereby anſwer ſome private Purpoſes, without any real Advantage to the Company: However purſuant to the Advice ſo given, the General Court on the 5th of *April* 1723 agreed to take in Subſcriptions accordingly.

But they ſoon found, that this Meaſure, like the former, was very far from putting them into a *better* Situation, and that the Money it brought in, being *exhauſted*, and their Debt increaſed, it was become neceſſary for them to conſider of more effectual Ways and Means for their Relief.

For this end in 1724, A SELECT COMMITTEE, compoſed of the Wardens for the Time being, and ſome of the *principal Members* of the Court of Aſſiſtants, was appointed to examine into the Company's Circumſtances; which Committee, under the Title of THE COMMITTEE OF ACCOMPTS, have ever ſince *engroſſed* to themſelves the whole Management of the Company's Money-Affairs.

To *this Committee* it is, that the Company's Bond-Creditors, as well as the *ſubſequent* Subſcribers for Annuities, moſt juſtly aſcribe their Ruin: For it was *this Committee*, who keeping the General Court, and even the Court of Aſſiſtants, as well as the Company's Creditors, in a total Ignorance of their true Situation, perſuaded the Company into the iniquitous and injurious Meaſure of ſupporting their Credit by *borrowing Money* upon Bond.

This Committee, who had not only the command of the Company's Books, but the Accounts themſelves regularly laid before them, could not but be ſenſible of the Company's Inability to make good their former, much leſs any additional Engagements; and therefore ought to have adviſed them to *ſtop* here, rather than increaſe the unavoidable Calamity, by drawing in freſh Numbers of Innocent and Unwary Perſons.

But inſtead of this, the *Committee*, againſt their better Knowledge, and contrary to their Duty, adviſed the Company to proceed, and in order to promote Subſcriptions, cauſed a Pamphlet to be printed and delivered out *gratis*, (*even*

ſo

ſo late as the Year 1741) wherein Dr. *Aſhton*'s Propoſal, the Company's Caution in accepting it, and the great Advantages reſulting therefrom to Subſcribers of every kind, were *elaborately* deſcribed and magnified, thereby making themſelves in a manner *Parties* to the *Original* Fraud; nay, ſo obſtinately were they bent upon purſuing this deſtructive Meaſure, that although the Company had in *July* 1740 been obliged to *reduce* their Annuities to 15 *l. per Cent.* yet in *April* 1742, when their Affairs were yet in a *worſe* Situation, they prevailed on the General Court (whom they had taught to follow their Advice implicitly) to *raiſe* them again to 20 *l.*

With what Views the Committee could take this extraordinary Step, unleſs to give the Company an Air of Affluence and Succeſs; and by that means to afford *particular* Perſons an Opportunity of *ſecuring* themſelves, is not eaſy to be reſolved.

Certain it is, that *ſubſequent* to this laſt Reſolution of the General Court, the Company received 9,050 *l.* for Subſcriptions, and 41,250 *l.* upon Bond, in all 50,300 *l.* that they paid off Bonds to the amount of 22,850 *l.* and that a conſiderable Number of the Bonds ſo diſcharged were the Property of *ſome of the Committee*, or *their particular Friends.*

Hence it may be reaſonably inferred, that thoſe of the Committee who lent their Money on theſe Bonds, did it either with a View to give the Company a *temporary* Credit, or elſe to make a *better Intereſt* than they could in the publick Funds; truſting that they ſhould always have it in their Power to ſecure their *Principal* at the Expence of others leſs *knowing* than themſelves. And it is more than probable that they would have continued this Practice of Borrowing, till they had ſo *ſecured Themſelves* and *Favourites*, if ſome amongſt them of more *Honour* than the reſt, together with the *Scarcity* of Money occaſioned by the *Rebellion*, had not *forced* them to ſtop: But being at laſt reduced to the neceſſity of diſcloſing the Secret, they, in *November* 1745, (*when there was in Fact but* 14 *l. left in Caſh*) ſummoned a Meeting of the Company's Creditors, and *ſurpriſed* them with the following melancholy Account of their Affairs.

That their Annuities then payable amounted to upwards of 8100 *l. per Annum*, and thoſe in Expectancy to 12,079 *l.*

That they were indebted 84,700 *l.* upon Bond, and about 26,317 *l.* for Arrears of Annuities, Intereſt, Charities, and other Accounts; in all 111,017 *l.*

And that the whole *neat* Income of all their Eſtates in Poſſeſſion (both thoſe in Settlement to the Annuitants, and thoſe not ſettled) did not exceed 5070 *l.*

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
Upon this *their own* State of the Caſe it appears, that (ſuppoſing the preſent Annuitants to drop as faſt as the Expectant Annuities will become payable) the Company will, for about Ten Years to come at leaſt, have Yearly to pay	8,100	0	0
To which if we add the Yearly Intereſt on the above Debt of 111,017 *l.* at 4 *per Cent.* making about	4,440	0	0
The Sums the Company will then have Yearly to pay, will amount to	12,540	0	0
And as their neat Rents, ariſing chiefly from old Houſes, are more likely to ſink than riſe, we may fairly ſuppoſe, that for at leaſt 10 Years to come, they will not exceed the ſaid Sum of	5,070	0	0
So that the Company muſt in that Space of Time run Yearly in Arrear the Sum of	7,470	0	0
Which Arrear at the End of the ſaid 10 Years (and ſooner they do not pretend to expect any Fines for Renewal, or any Addition of Rent) will without any Accumulation of Intereſt amount to	74,700	0	0
And being added to their preſent Debt, *viz.*	111,017	0	0
Will then make the Company Debtors, in the whole, the Sum of	185,717	0	0

And

And therefore, ſuppoſing the Annuitants *all* to die within that Time (which is not to be expected) and that the Company's Income will then receive an *Addition* of 2000 *l. per Annum*, their *neat* Revenues will ſtill be ſcarce ſufficient to anſwer the *Intereſt*, much leſs any Part of the *Principal* of this prodigious Debt.

In the mean time the Annuitants are forced to accept 10 *s.* in the Pound; which Compoſition however, as it affords them an *immediate*, though *ſlender* Subſiſtence, makes their Condition, for the *preſent* at leaſt, more ſupportable than that of the BOND-CREDITORS, who till the others are paid in full, muſt not expect to receive a Shilling *even* of their *Intereſt*. Unleſs therefore ſome Expedient can be found for their Relief, moſt dreadful muſt *their* Situation be under ſuch a Circumſtance, who, from the Credit not only of the Company, but of the Gentlemen in the Direction, have been induced to place their ALL on this Security.

How it has happened that ſo many Men of Eminence and Fortune have thus ſtooped to betray a publick Truſt, and by repeated Impoſitions to *proſecute* a Scheme they could not but know to have been founded in *Fraud*; or why, upon the Company's diſcloſing the true State of their Affairs, theſe Gentlemen deſerted their Poſts, and refuſed to give the Company and their Creditors that Aſſiſtance they had a Right to expect, and which they now more than ever ſtood in need of, the SUPREME AUTHORITY alone can force them to diſcover.

Such an *Enquiry*, attended with an adequate *Cenſure* upon the *Guilty*, and a juſt *Reparation* to the *Injured*, it is humbly hoped will not be thought unworthy the Attention and Interpoſition of *Parliament*; more eſpecially as the ſtrict *Forms* of ſubordinate and *limited* Juriſdictions would render any Application there either totally fruitleſs, or inſupportably tedious and expenſive to Sufferers already *exhauſted* and *undone*.

THE

CASE

OF THE

Annuitants, Subſcribers, *and* Bond-Creditors *of the* MERCERS-COMPANY.

THE CASE OF THE Mine-Adventurers.

The Scope and Intent of the Bill, is only to enable the Mine-Adventurers *to call in Money amongſt their Partners, for Payment and Satisfaction of their Creditors, and for the more effectual carrying on their Undertaking; but in Order to a right underſtanding of the whole Matter, the true State of this Caſe from the beginning to this time, is ſet forth briefly as followeth.*

THIS Undertaking was begun by Sir *Carbery Pryſe* and Partners, after ſeveral Controverſies and Tryals at Bar between him and the Pattentees of Royal Mines, which were afterward Settled and Determined by an Act of Parliament, obtained by the ſaid Sir *Carbery*, in the fifth Year of the Reign of their late Majeſties King *William* and Queen *Mary* of Glorious Memory; Entituled, *An Act to prevent Diſputes and Controverſies concerning Royal Mines*; And the ſaid Undertaking was then Founded on the Mines in one Mountain in the County of *Cardigan*, called *Bulcher*, *Eskir*, *hyr*.

Sir *Carbery Pryſe* and his Partners, raiſed a Stock for Working the ſaid Mines, but the Rocks proving very hard, and the Water troubleſome, he was not able to Drein the Mines and bring them to Perfection, though they were at that time ſix Foot wide in Solid Ore, and eſteemed by many Judicious and impartial Perſons (who had viewed the ſame on occaſion of the ſaid Conteſts) to be the richeſt Mines then known in *England* or *Wales*, and therefore the ſaid Sir *Carberry* and his firſt Partners, divided the Mines into more Shares, and took in more Partners, and raiſed a greater Stock, but even that was not ſufficient to remove the Impediments by Nature, and carry on the Mines to any conſiderable Profit, and the rather, becauſe ſome Differences did ariſe amongſt the Partners about their Articles and Conſtitution, and ſeveral Law Suits were actually Commenced and Proſecuted, both in Law and Equity amongſt themſelves, which put a full ſtop to the working of the Mines, to the great prejudice of the Partners and all the poor Workmen, whoſe Families depended on that Employment for their Livelihood.

During the ſaid Differences, Sir *Carbery Pryſe* Dyed, and the ſame continued ſome Years after, till at laſt by the Arguments and Aſſurances of the Steward of the Mines, by ſeveral Affidavits and Witneſſes, to prove the wideneſs of the Veins, and Richneſs of the Ore, and by the Confeſſions of both Parties on the ſaid Trials at Bar, and Proceedings in Parliament, notwithſtanding the Mines themſelves could not then be ſeen, as being not wrought at that time, but lying under Water; yet by all theſe Proofs after a Years Solicitation; And Mr. *Waller* offering to take his Arrears of Salary in Tickets, and his future Salary out of the Profits, at the Rate of One Hundred Pounds *per Annum*, for every Ten Thouſand Pounds clear Profits to the Company: Mr. *Edward Pryſe* (who ſucceeded Sir *Carbery*) prevailed on Sir *Humphrey Mackworth* to purchaſe the Intereſt of the ſaid Sir *Carbery Pryſe*, whereupon Sir *Humphrey* expected, that the Partners would have immediately joyned to raiſe a Stock to work the Mines, which all Parties agreed, were then ſo Rich, that nothing was wanting but a large Stock and good Management, but finding contrary to Expectation, that all things were in Confuſion, divers Law Suits Commenced, and many Perſons concerned, who were not able to join in raiſing a Stock.

A Propoſal was made to accommodate all their Differences and Law Suits, and to raiſe a Stock, by drawing Lots in imitation of the Million Lottery, for which purpoſe Sir *H. Mackworth*, who ſtood in the place of Sir *Carbery Pryſe*, (who by the old Conſtitution was not only to be perpetual Chair-man, but was to have Votes in proportion to the number of Shares he enjoyed, and conſequently the whole Power in his own Hands) condeſcended to give the Partners a new Conſtitution, extracted out of the Charters and Conſtitutions of the beſt Companies in *London*, and alſo to take in more Partners with him in his Purchaſe, and to reduce himſelf to a ſingle Vote, and he alſo voluntarily and freely added more Years to their Term, without any conſideration for the ſame.

This Generous proceeding encouraged all the ſaid Partners Unanimouſly to reſolve to carry on the ſaid Undertaking, in the Method propoſed, and to refer all their Differences and Law Suits (which were many) to the ſole Umpirage and Award of the ſaid Sir *H. Mackworth*, who made an end thereof, to the entire Satisfaction of all Parties.

The Lottery thereupon was drawn with all the fairneſs imaginable, and a Stock raiſed of Twenty thouſand Pounds, for carrying on the Mines, and bringing up the Levels, Adits and Soughs, to drein the Water, and remove all other Impediments, but the Managers finding by experience, that the Mines in thoſe parts were ſubject to Twitches, which frequently interrupted the Works, and obliged the Company to pay dead Wages: And the Managers being alſo deſirous to enlarge the Foundation of their Undertaking in a Country that abounded with Mines, after ſeveral Debates and Conſultations in private Committees, and afterwards in General Meetings, it was Unanimouſly reſolved to take in more Mines, and thereby to put the Company upon a more ſure and laſting Foundation.

This occaſioned new Methods for enlarging their Stock, which they did at firſt by borrowing Money amongſt the chief Partners, in a private manner, having no other Security but the Caſhiers Receipt, and an Order of the Managers, that they ſhould be Repaid with Intereſt, out of the profits of the Mines, but Objections being made to this ſort of Security, which was all could be had without a common Seal, application was humbly made to Her Majeſty, for a Charter of Incorporation, according to the Conſtitution ſettled under the Hands and Seals of all the Partners as aforeſaid, which being granted, Securities were then made under the Corporation Seal, and the Partners ſucceeding in ſeveral new Mines, (ſome of which being rich in Silver, they had purchaſed the Inheritance to them and their Succeſſors for ever, in others they had taken long Leaſes for ninety nine Years.) They were incouraged to circulate their Current Caſh, through their own Office, whereby the Partners being a numerous Body of ſix Hundred Perſons and upwards, propoſed to enlarge their Stock for working the Mines, without paying much Intereſt, and without interfereing with any other Intereſt whatſoever.

They

They did Conceive it was neither Unjuſt nor Diſhonourable to raiſe Money amongſt themſelves, nor to borrow Money of any others to carry on their Undertaking, ſince they had Reaſon to believe they had a very good Fund to anſwer all Demands, and ſince it is well known, that other Companies of the beſt Reputation in *London*, have, and do uſe the ſame Methods to carry on their Trade, and find great Advantage by it.

By theſe and other means, the Company have enlarged their Undertaking to a high Degree, having from the Mines in one Mountain that were Poor in Silver, and for a ſhort Term encreaſed their number to Twenty eight ſeveral Veins for a long Term, ſeveral of which hold Forty Ounces of Silver in a Tunn of Lead, and ſome of them Seventy Ounces and upward.

They have alſo erected large Work-Houſes for Smelting, Refining and making Lytharge and Red Lead in ſeveral places convenient for their Works, which coſt a very conſiderable Sum of Money, and they have been at great Expences in carrying up Levels, Adits and Soughs, to drein the Water, in Engines, Houſes for the Miners, and in bringing ſo many Additonal Mines to their preſent Perfection.

And that they have a conſiderable Treaſure belonging to them, may appear by two ſeveral Reports made upon view thereof this laſt Summer, in one of which, the Mines actually Diſcovered and Tryed ſo far, as Levels are brought to Ore, and Shafts ſunk down, and all Impediments removed, are Eſtimated at the value of a Million and upwards, ſuppoſing their Mines ſhould not hold above one fourth part of the preſent wideneſs in Ore, and all the Ground untryed, that ſtands in the Courſe of the Vein is not valued at all; nay, there is one Vein being Thirteen Foot wide, moſt in Ore; that is, not particularly Eſtimated, becauſe they conceived it to be an Inexhauſtible Treaſure.

There is alſo a Copper Vein, that is ſo rich that it yields Native Copper, and Green Ore, that produces one Tun of Copper out of Two Tuns of Ore, which is not Valued, becauſe not yet brought to Perfection, and for the ſame reaſon many other very hopeful Works are not Valued.

The Company has alſo received a Propoſal from an Ingenious Gentleman out of *Derby-ſhire*, to make Ten Thouſand Pounds *per Annum*, clear of all Charges, from Five of the ſaid Mines only, and to take his Salary out of the Profits accordingly; to which the ſaid Company have agreed: And all theſe Five, are new Mines added to the firſt Undertaking.

It may be obſerved, That the Company acted with that Caution, that as they thought it neceſſary on one ſide to enlarge their Undertaking; ſo on the other, they conſidered that they had not only a growing Treaſure in the Mines, to anſwer the Demands of all their Creditors, but alſo a Stock in the Mines belonging to the Company; which if ſold at the Price upon the Exchange, before they ſuffered in their Credit, would have been ſufficient to anſwer all Demands: but whilſt their Mines and Credit did daily improve, they had no reaſon to diſpoſe of their Stock at a low rate, which they expected would every Year advance to a much greater Price. Theſe Conſiderations, together with the punctual Payments they always made of all their Bonds and Bills, as they became due and payable, till *March* laſt, may ſufficiently demonſtrate the honeſt Intentions of the ſaid Company, which yet may further appear by the Sums of Money they themſelves have advanced to carry on the Undertaking, and which are yet owing to them.

It will be to no purpoſe now to take Notice, by what Means the Company have been brought to ſuffer in their Credit, and conſequently to poſtpone their Payments; they are always ready to ſubmit their private Intereſt to the Good of the Publick, and do not doubt but the Wiſdom of the Nation will take the Caſe of the Company and their Creditors into their ſerious Conſideration.

The Company have ſtill that Opinion of their Undertaking, that notwithſtanding all their Misfortunes, they are not diſcouraged, but are ready to raiſe Money amongſt themſelves to carry on their Mines and pay their Debts; and the Bill is only to Impower them ſo to do, by the ſame Methods as are uſed in other Companies. Mineral Undertakings are of ſuch a Nature, that next to the Woolen, do certainly deſerve all due Encouragement; they employ a great Number of Poor, many Ships and Sea-men, and conſume great Quantities of Iron, Coal, and other Comodities of this Kingdom, and are every way advantagious to the Publick.

A late Famous Author is pleaſed to obſerve, That in all Nations a Treaſure of this kind ought not to be ſuffered to lye dead, but either the Partners ſhould be compell'd to agree in carrying on the ſame, or elſe the Publick ſhould advance a Stock at a reaſonable Intereſt for the Working thereof; for tho' the Gains to the Partners ſhould be but ſmall, yet all that is dug out of the Earth is clear Gain to the Nation, tho' the Silver Extracted out of Lead, ſhould yield but little Profit to the Undertakers; yet all the Silver Extracted is an Addition to the Capital Stock of the Kingdom; and if neglected at home, will be wholly enjoyed by other Nations.

Upon the whole Matter it may Appear,

That this Undertaking was Originally Founded upon the Credit of an Act of Parliament, and upon numerous Evidence of all Parties on ſeveral Trials at Barr between the Patentees of Royal Mines and Sir Carbery Pryſe; *That there were two Setts of Partners ſucceſſively engaged before this preſent Company were concerned, who came in upon their Credit, added to the former Evidence, whilſt the Mines were not capable of being viewed, but lay under Water. That they have been at great Expences in Work-Houſes and Levels, and other Dead Charges, and have enlarged their Undertaking from One to Twenty eight Veins, which muſt neceſſarily require a greater Stock then was firſt Propoſed, which by their Conſtitution, could not be Raiſed, but by the Methods uſed by other Companies, by borrowing Money amongſt their Partners and others for that purpoſe; and that they have a ſufficient Fund to anſwer all Demands upon them, and to bring in a conſiderable Profit to the Company: and therefore it is Humbly Hoped, That a Bill ſhall not be thought Unreaſonable, to Enable them to call in Money amongſt their reſpective Partners, to do Juſtice to their Creditors, and to carry on their Undertaking.*

THE CASE OF THE *Mine-Adventurers.*

816. m. 13.
77

200

The CASE of the Company of Mine-Adventurers, *relating to Mrs.* Lucas, *who has exhibited a Petition for a ſaving Clauſe in the Bill depending in Parliament.*

THE Company of Mine-Adventurers, on the 15th of *February*, 1708, in a general Court (his Grace the Governour being preſent) at the Requeſt, and for the Satisfaction of their Creditors, who were ſummon'd to appear at the ſaid Court, did execute the following Deed or Declaration under their Common Seal, and deliver'd the ſame to Mr. *Broughton Wright* in Truſt, for and by Appointment of the ſaid Creditors, which Declaration is as followeth, *viz.*

" Know all Men by theſe Preſents, that the Governour and Company " of the Mine-Adventurers of *England* have in a General Court held at " the Mine-Office in *Angel-Court* on *Snow-hill*, this preſent 15th Day of " *February*, 1708, agreed, ordered and appointed, and do by theſe Pre- " ſents, agree, order and appoint, that the Profits of the Mines belonging " to the ſaid Company, and all the Money, which ſhall from time to time " be call'd in from their ſeveral and reſpective Partners and Members, " ſhall be apply'd for carrying on their Undertaking, for the working and " manufacturing Mines and Minerals, and extracting Silver from Lead, in " manner as hath been accuſtomed; and for Payment of their Debts in " Bonds, Bills and Caſh Notes *pro rata*, without any undue Preference; " and for no other Uſe, Intent or Purpoſe whatſoever, without Licence " under the Hands of the greater part of the Creditors of the ſaid Company. " In Teſtimony whereof the ſaid Governour and Company have cauſed " their Common Seal to be hereunto affix'd the Day and Year above men- " tion'd.

This Grant or Order gave univerſal Satisfaction to the Creditors, and no other Perſon commenc'd any freſh Suits againſt the ſaid Company, after the Execution thereof, beſides Mrs. *Lucas*, who commenc'd an Action at Law againſt the Company for 100 *l.* in the Name of Mr. *Dykes* their Caſhier, without aſking his Conſent, or in the leaſt acquainting him with it: whereupon the ſaid Mr. *Dykes* the Caſhier *(unknown to the Company or Directors)* apprehending that a Seizure or Extent on the Mines would be highly prejudicial to the Company and their Creditors, who had the Company's Bills made out to him and his Aſſigns for many thouſand Pounds, and being ſenſible that in Juſtice and Equity all the Creditors ought to be put on an equal Foot acccording to the Declaration, did ſign a Releaſe, whereby Mrs. *Lucas* would not be deprived of her Debt, but only to take her Relief in a Court of Equity, and thereby ſhe, and all the other Creditors have an equal and proportionable Share of the Profits of the Mines, according to the ſaid Deed or Declaration, without any Preference or Advantage by vexatious Suits at Law.

This Releaſe was pleaded to the ſaid Action of Mrs. *Lucas* for 100 *l.* but was ſoon after cancell'd, and a new Bond made to Mrs. *Lucas* for her Principal and Intereſt; and the Directors apprehending that their Caſhier did ſeal the ſaid Releaſe without any ill Deſign, and that he had made no Advantage by it to himſelf, they did make an Order that he ſhould be ſaved harmleſs from all Charges or Damages he ſhould ſuffer on that Account.

Mr.

Mr. *Dykes* the Caſhier being ſworn before a Maſter in *Chancery* for the Satisfaction of the Company, has declar'd upon Oath, that he had no Order from the Deputy-Governour to execute the ſaid Releaſe, which, he ſays, was ſo executed on or about the 28th of *May*, when the Deputy-Governour was out of Town, and was not made privy to the ſame to his Knowledge; neither was it probable he would adviſe a Releaſe, that diſcharg'd Bills belonging to himſelf of the Value of 4000 *l.* and upwards, by him lent to the Company.

In Caſe the Directors had deſign'd to act with any partiality, in relation to the Creditors, it is well known that a great part of the Debt lies amongſt themſelves, and they might have commenc'd Sutes againſt the Company in the Name of Mr. *Dykes*, and given early Appearances to the ſame, and obtained Judgment and Execution prior to all other Creditors, and thereby have defeated their Demands; but no ſuch thing was done: they were content to receive their Debts in proportion with the reſt of the Creditors, and without any Preference; and have had publick Acknowledgments from the Governour and Company and their Creditors, in a general Court, for their faithful Services.

Theſe Proceedings about ſo ſmall a Sum as 100 *l.* Debt have been repreſented with a great deal of Malice againſt the Company, who gave no Order for it; and hence it may appear, how eaſy it is to give a wrong turn to any Tranſaction, ſince it is apparent, that the reſt of the Creditors for near 40000 *l.* would have had much more Reaſon to complain againſt the Company or their Caſhier, in caſe the Mines had been ſtopp'd, and the Works ruin'd by an Extent and Seizure in the Name of an Officer of the Company for a Debt of 100 *l.* which might have been ſuſpected as an unjuſt and partial Preference.

Where ſeveral Perſons are Creditors in an equal degree, and a deficiency of Aſſets to pay 'em all, 'tis the conſtant Method of all Courts of Equity to ſet each Creditor upon an Average, and to reſtrain vexatious Proceedings which tend only to waſt the Eſtate; and 'twas no doubt the ſame equitable Conſideration which induc'd the Legiſlature to make the ſeveral Laws now in being, touching Bankrupt Eſtates. And by the Statute of King *James* I. 'tis carry'd ſo far, that even *Judgment Creditors* are brought upon an Average with the meaneſt Book-Debt; it was not therefore unjuſt that Mrs. *Lucas*'s 100 *l.* ſhould not be preferr'd before 40000 *l.*

THE

CASE

OF THE

COMPANY

OF

Mine-Adventurers,

Relating to Mrs. *LUCAS.*

R. May 22.
1711

THE CASE

OF THE

Creditors and *Proprietors* of the Company of *Mine Adventurers.*

CONTAINING

OBSERVATIONS

On the BILL, Entiutled

A Bill for Relief of the Creditors and Proprietors of the Company of Mine Adventurers, for eſtabliſhing a Method for ſetling the Differences between the Company and their Creditors, and for Uniting them, in order to an effectual working the Mines of the ſaid Company.

NOTE, *This Bill is brought in* Ex parte, *without the Conſent or Privity of the United Company of Creditors and Partners.*

THE firſt Clauſe of the Bill is to the Effect following, that is to ſay, " That all Grants, Contracts, Bargains, Sales, " Leaſes, Mortgages, Conveyances, and Aſſurances made of any " Mines, Minerals, Lands, Tenements, Hereditaments, Stock, Goods " and Chattels, by the ſaid Governour and Company of Mine Adventurers " of *England*, to any Perſon or Perſons whatſoever, ſince the 18th of " *March*, in the Year of our Lord 1707. or by any Perſon or Perſons " ſeized or poſſeſſed of any Mines, Minerals, Lands, Tenements, Here- " ditaments, Stock, Goods and Chattels, in Truſt for the ſaid Company " of Mine Adventurers of *England*, ſhall be, and are hereby declared to be " abſolutely void and of none effect.

Obſ. It will be a very great Reflection on the Governour and Company, that all their Acts and Deeds done with great Deliberation in a General Court, ſhould be branded with that Infamy, as to be made void by an Act of Parliament, as illegal, and repugnant to the general Good of the Company and their Creditors.

It is contrary to the Rules of Juſtice and Equity to deprive any Man whatſoever, and much more a Number of Men, of their juſt and legal Rights, ſecured to them by Grants and Conveyances made according to Law.

It is Unparliamentary, and without Precedent, to diveſt Men of their Eſtates by a Law *Ex poſt facto*.

By this Clauſe, a Mortgage made for good and valuable Conſiderations in ready Money *Bona fide* paid for working the Mines, without which the ſame had been forfeited, will be made void.

By this Clauſe the Creditors will be diveſted of the Poſſeſſion of the Mines, and Power of proſecuting Offenders, granted to them by ſeveral Conveyances under the Corporation Seal, and the Hands and Seals of ſeveral other Perſons, and will be forced to ſubmit to the Terms of the Bill which deprives them of many Rights and Privileges which they are entituled to by the ſaid Grants, as will appear in the following Objections.

This Clauſe deſtroys the Foundation of the Union, ſetled and eſtabliſh'd with great Deliberation, by Authority of the Governour and Company, and under the Common Seal, and by Agreements under the Hands and Seals of three hundred Perſons and upwards; for Confirmation whereof, a Petition was exhibited, and to which end the Creditors did hope a Bill would have been brought in, and the rather, ſince it is not in the Power of a few to conſent to a Bill to deſtroy the Terms of that Union, which they have mutually covenanted with each other under their Hands and Seals to ſtand by and perform.

By deſtroying the Union, the Subſcribers to the Subſcription Deed are deprived of the Security given to indempnifie them for ſeveral conſiderable Sums of Money lately paid by them upon the ſaid Deeds of Union, which by this Bill will be made void.

All Contracts for Lead, and other Goods, although made *bona fide*, and for full and valuable Conſiderations, and for Advantage and Convenience of the Company, except as hereafter mentioned, will be made void; whereby the Officer that acted with full Powers from the Company, and the Perſons with whom he contracted, are by a Law *Ex poſt facto*, deprived of the Benefit of the Law and of a Legal Contract, where there is no Pretence of any Fraud.

By *Clauſe* 2. New Shares in Lieu of principal Money and Annuities are made void, and the Proprietors declar'd to be Creditors as before, all which may be reaſonable to be done, if the Parties will conſent, but it is an extraordinary Diſpoſition of Property without it.

By *Clauſe* 3. No other Care is taken of thoſe who complied with the laſt Call, but to admit them as Creditors; ſo they muſt pay two Calls when others pay but one, which is very unequal and unjuſt.

By *Clauſe* 4. Contracts for Ore and Lead for ready Money actually paid, are allowed. But all Contracts under the Company's Seal for Workmens Wages, and Goods of equal value, and abſolutely neceſſary for the uſe of the Company, are made void.

By *Clauſe* 5. The Creditors are compelled to unite, and accept Shares of the Mines in lieu of their Debt, by Bonds and Bills under the Company's Seal, and are debarred of their Remedy either in Law or Equity, without their own Conſent.

By *Clauſe* 6. A new Conſtitution, and a ſort of a Corporation is to be eſtabliſhed by Act of Parliament, which varies from the real Charter, and ſeems to encroach on the Prerogative of the Crown.

By *Clauſe* 7. One Set of Partners have a fifth Part, and another a third Part of their reſpective Properties taken away without Conſent.

By *Clauſes* 7 and 8. The Partners will be put to great and unneceſſary Trouble in making their Claims; and if they are not truly regiſtred by the Accomptant, they are not entituled to their Stock by this Bill, which puts too great a Power in any Officer.

By *Clauſe* 9. Her Majeſty's Charter is altered in ſeveral Particulars, and amongſt many other things, by taking away from Partners that live in the Country their preſent Right to vote by Proxy; and ſo placing the whole Power in a few that live in the City, without their Conſent; this is not only contrary to the Charter, but alſo to the original Settlements of the Mine Adventure, under the Hands and Seals of the original Adventurers, under which all do Claim.

By *Clauſe* 10. If the Directors do not give in a State and Ballance of the Accounts, within twenty Days after the end of the Year, there are divers Incapacities and Penalties on them, though it may not be their Fault, but the Neglect of the Officers in the Country, which will diſcourage Men of Subſtance and Prudence to undertake that Truſt, to the great Prejudice of the Undertaking.

By *Clauſe* 11. A Power is given under ſeveral Penalties to call in Money upon the Creditors, by Bonds and Bills, as well as on the Partners, contrary to the Terms of the late Union, and without their Conſent.

Clauſe 12. Gives unreaſonable Powers to the Accomptant, and enacts a new ſort of Judicature; for his Certificate is in Nature of a Decree, and is final without Appeal.

This Clauſe makes the Directors, who act as Judges, and not as Officers, accountable for Caſh and Effects that never came to their Hands, but have been accounted for by the proper Officers appointed by the Company in a General Court.

There is no occaſion for all theſe extraordinary Proceedings, for the Creditors and Company, have now (and when united on the Foot of the Charter, will then alſo have) full Power to examine the Books and if they find any Wrong or Deceit, or juſt Cauſe of Suſpicion, they will have full Power to proſecute according to the Rules of Law and Equity: The Courts of *Weſtminſter-Hall* are open, the Methods of Juſtice there are known and ſafe for both Parties; the Company will be able to deal with any that has done them wrong, there is no reaſon to queſtion the Integrity of the Lord Keeper, or of the Judges, and therefore they need not deſire Powers that may prove vexatious, without any juſt Cauſe.

No Penalty, Coſts or Damages are inflicted on the Proſecutors, in Caſe their Proceedings ſhall appear to be malicious, and they are not able to prove their Allegations.

Clauſe 13. Provides, that no Perſon who has been Director or Aſſiſtant ſince *March* 1707, ſhall be capable of being a Director by this Act, whereby they diſqualifie moſt of the Men of Subſtance and large Stocks that live about *London*, and can attend the Service, without pretending to prove the leaſt Fault committed by them, and thereby the Company are denied of a free Choice.

By *Clauſe* 14. This Bill which concerns a private Eſtate and Property in a private Partnerſhip, is made a publick Act, which tends to ſurprize many hundred Partners who live in the Country.

The Charges of the Methods preſcribed will be very great, without Proſpect of any Advantage.

No

No time is limited for ſetling the Differences, ſo that all Perſons concerned for twelve Years laſt paſt, may for twelve Years more be haraſs'd by the Authority of this Act, with vexatious Proceedings.

It may be conſidered, who are the Parties that deſire all this Charge and Trouble? it is not the Governour and Company, nor their Creditors, nor the Majority of either, but a few Perſons who are not proper Parties for any Complaint of this Nature in any of her Majeſty's Courts of Law or Equity, and every Member of the Company has as much Right to make freſh Complaints, to the endleſs Trouble and Charge of all that are concerned.

The Company and their Creditors are armed with Powers to proſecute all Perſons for Deceit, Miſmanagement and Imbezlement, and the Courts of Law and Equity are open, and to ſtand Suit with a Company is Puniſhment enough; there is therefore no occaſion for erecting new Courts of Juſtice with arbitrary and unlimited Powers without Appeal.

In ſhort: This Bill (which was order'd to be brought in on all the Petitions, to eſtabliſh a Method for adjuſting their Differences, and carrying on the Mines) tends to create more Differences, and to deſtroy the undertaking; it leſſens the Intereſt of *many* to gratifie a *few*; it makes void Legal Settlements, deſtroys Property, gives Powers vexatious, arbitrary, and unjuſt; is plainly a Law *Ex poſt facto*, and is therefore Unparliamentary, and contrary to the Rules of Juſtice and Equity, and can never paſs in a *Britiſh* Parliament.

OBSERVATIONS
ON THE
BILL
Relating to the
Mine-Adventurers.

divers Penalties are inflicted; all which is arbitrary, and ſubjects all Directors and Aſſiſtants, who have acted as Managers, for twelve Years laſt paſt, to endleſs Trouble and deſpotick Power.

This private Bill, concerning private Property, is made a publick Act, which tends to ſurprize all the Partners at a diſtance and to prevent the uſual ſaving Clauſe in all private Acts.

This Bill is not deſired by the Governor and Company, nor by the Creditors or the Majority of either, nor by the United Society, but by a *few Perſons* who have been often out-voted in a general Court by a great Majority, and is not, in any reſpect, for the general Good.

There is no other way to re-eſtabliſh this Company, but either by a fair Bill, with Conſent of all Parties, or by leaving them to be govern'd according to Law, and as all other Corporations are by Majority of Votes amongſt themſelves.

The far greater Part of the Company and their Creditors both in Number and Value have, by Advice of Council and by legal Deeds and Conveyances, agreed, amongſt themſelves, and they do humbly inſiſt that they have a legal Eſtabliſhment, according to the known Laws of the Realm, and hope they ſhall not be diveſted of their legal Rights and Properties upon any plauſible Pretences whatſoever.

This Honourable Houſe have ſhew'd a tender Regard to the Rights of thoſe they repreſent in many Inſtances, they have not thought fit to come into Laws *ex poſt facto*, even where the Publick have been highly concerned (as in the notorious Caſe of the Victualling Office, and a late villanous Attempt upon a great Miniſter of State, who has ſhewn ſo great Fidelity to Her Majeſty and Zeal for her Service) much leſs can it be imagined that they will ſhew any Countenance to a private Bill, that if paſſed into an Act, would be a Law *ex poſt facto* almoſt in every Clauſe.

REASONS
Againſt paſſing the
BILL
Relating to the
Mine-Adventurers

202-

Remarks on a Paper, Intitled, Obſervations on the Bill relating to the MINE-ADVENTURERS.

THE Proprietors and Creditors of the *Mines*, by the artful Contrivance of ſome Perſons, who acted in the Management of the Affairs relating to the ſaid Company, were unexpectedly brought into the utmoſt Diſtreſs; and on the 18th of *March*, 1707. a ſtop was put to the Company's paying their juſt Debts, which occaſioned a Petition to the laſt Parliament; where a Committee being appointed to examine the Facts, made a Report, to which the Houſe did agree, and Order'd to be Printed.

Firſt, After the ſtop was put to their Credit, thoſe Perſons who had ſtill the Direction of Affairs of the Company, made ſeveral Grants, Leaſes, Mortgages, Conveyances and Aſſurances of the ſaid Mines, for their own private Advantage; and for to amuſe and confound the Creditors and Partners, not for any valuable Conſideration then paid; and ſince theſe gave Preference to ſome, in Prejudice to others, it muſt not be thought hard to ſet them aſide; eſpecially by the Perſons who made the pretended Union, ſince moſt of their Debts were diſcharged by one *Dikes*, the Caſhier to the Company, by a general Releaſe, to which they are reſtored by this Bill: But this is only Surmiſe, ſince very few oppoſe this Bill now they are appriſed of the Regulations thereby intended, eſpecially when they ſee the firſt *Proviſo* in the Bill ſecures all Contracts, *&c.* for valuable Conſiderations, tho' made after the ſtop.

II. In anſwer to the ſecond Objection: The Affairs of the Company being thus perplex'd, it can't be thought reaſonable that the Actions of a few who have the power of the Corporation Seal, ſhould have any Countenance whilſt the Differences remain undetermin'd, and the Allowance made by the Perſons who were to have the Benefit of it.

III. The whole Undertaking being intirely ſunk, and the Mines and Stock the only Debtors; the Creditors can't think this Bill hard, which obliges them to accept Stock and Shares for their Debts, when the Proprietors joyn with them to raiſe a Fund to work the Mines, which in Time, it's hoped, may anſwer their ends; but ſurely the Debts being now worth nothing, the Creditors can't be Loſers by accepting of Stock and Shares, which in all probability will be of Value when the Undertaking ſhall again be ſupported with Money, and it's hoped by better Management.

IV. The Complaint that is made of the Bill altering the Charter in divers Particulars, can't proceed from *the* Ignorance *of the Author*, *as* not knowing that the Legiſlature can, and always have altered Charters which they know prejudicial to the Publick.

V. The firſt Part of the 5*th* Clauſe is not true in Fact; but if it was ſurely its no Cauſe of Complaint to ſay, they were made contrary to the Terms of a Union, which really was, and long ſince has been given up as Unfair and Unjuſt.

VI. It's very reaſonable ſurely, to lay ſome Obligations on the Proprietors of the Mines, to pay in Money on a Call, ſince by the Bill, it is not to exceed 40 *s. per* Share, for if they were not, thoſe that paid their Money would Work their Mines at their own Expences, and others ſhare the Profits with them, without Advancing any Thing. But if it's now hard for Perſons to Forfeit a Moiety of their Shares, what was the Union which is ſo much contended for, which took away the whole Shares, and appointed ſo ſhort a Day, that thoſe who liv'd in the Country could not comply with if they would?

VII. The Author *here* depends much on the known Laws of the Realm, and the Methods of the Courts of Law and Equity, as well knowing that he will hereby eſcape from effectually Accounting *for what he ſtands accountable* to the Company; for the Proceeding there in a *Cauſe of this Nature* muſt be very tedious and chargeable, and not to be got through.

But ſurely the Author cannot Complain, ſince the whole Accounts may be Re-examin'd in the Court of Chancery upon an Appeal, unleſs he thinks that by this Act the Method is ſhortned, and that will now in one Year be determin'd, which was hop'd would laſt an Age.

The other part of this Clauſe ſeems fit to be Examin'd by thoſe, on whom it ſeems ſo highly to reflect, and therefore I ſhall ſay nothing; but if the Author would but read his own Statute Book, he will find that this is not the firſt Time that *Magna Charta* has been alter'd.

The Perſons who are by this Act diſquallified for one Year only from being Directors, are thoſe who have brought theſe Misfortunes upon the Company; and ſurely whilſt their own Actions are under Examination, they ought not to be Directors, and ſo Examin their own Accounts.

Since the Accounts have never been fairly Adjuſted by proper Vouchers, and Notorious Proceedings have been, in order to procure Allowances of Accounts not regularly paſt, as by the Report of the late Honourable Houſe of Commons may appear, pag. 8. *Sheires*'s Depoſition. It is moſt juſt that Perſons who accept imaginary Stock in lieu of juſt Debts, ſhould have Juſt Satisfaction of the real State of the ſaid Company, and be impower'd to Examin into the Management and the Accounts thereof; and whatſoever Pretence may be of Vouchers of Fact being deliver'd up, the Vouchers of Right are contain'd in the Settlements of the ſaid Company, and muſt always be remaining to Warrant the ſame; and no Perſons have yet pretended, that the Account has been ever adjuſted by the proper Vouchers of Right.

Extra-

Extraordinary Miſmanagements in Bodies Politick, and in Matters of extraordinary Natures, and when general Inconveniencies will enſue, have always been thought proper for extraordinary Remedies, and the Authority hereby given, is not a real Juriſdiction to determine Abſolutely the Rights of the Perſons intereſted or concerned with the ſaid Company, but to Examin upon Oath, the Perſons that have been the Cauſe of the ſaid Company's Misfortunes, aud their Agents; that it may evidently appear, whether the Managers or the Mines have been the real Occaſion of the Company's Sinking, that the Undertaking may be either dropt or carried on with more Succeſs; and if the Company, when this Act ſhall be paſs'd, may become Terrible for its Greatneſs to ſome Perſons, it is moſt plain, that as it now ſtands, it is too Weak to bring any Offenders to Juſtice.

It is not deny'd that this Bill concerns a private Undertaking, yet this Undertaking is for the improving a very conſiderable Manufacture of this Kingdom; the Benefit whereof has been elegantly and clearly ſet forth and demonſtrated by the Ingenious Sir *H. M.* That it is hardly to be doubted, but as he has made it appear to be a Beneficial Trade to the Nation, ſo of conſequence it muſt be of the greateſt Import to promote and encourage it: And as the Wiſdom of the Commons have thought this a good BILL for the Publick, and for the benefit of the Company and their Creditors, it is preſum'd to be conſiſtent with the Reaſons of Law, and will be warranted by the Preſident of the *Stat. of Charitable Uſes and Bankrupts*; to which the Caſe of this Company ſeems moſt parallel: And to reſtore the Undone, to aſſiſt the Afflicted, to remedy a Diſtreſſed Society, has never been thought of dangerous Conſequence to the Juſt, or an evil Precedent to future Ages.

If ſome Perſons are jealous of New Powers, it may be preſum'd, it is becauſe their Actions will not bear a new and clear Light; and tho' a Majority of the Creditors, deluded with a ſpecious Shew of Preference to them, by the Deed of Union, did not come in to Petition for a Regulation and Eſtabliſhment; yet ſince they have ſeen how Juſt and how Reaſonable the Matters contain'd therein are, very few now oppoſe this Bill, but thoſe who have been ſo deep in the former dark Management, that they dare not ſubmit their Actions ſo much as to the mildeſt Examination, nor themſelves to be acquitted by their own Conſciences: Nor ought it to be objected, That no Relief has been ſought either in Law or Equity, when the Company had ſo fortified themſelves by a general Releaſe againſt all Proceedings at Law, and by the ſtrong Fortreſſes of Aſſignments, and other private Conveyances, and Croſs Bills in Equity, as by the ſaid Report of *Pag.* 14 *&* 15. may appear, That to a rational Man *France* might have as ſoon been overcome, as this Company, by legal Proceedings, or by the regular Courſe of Equity, be brought to a Stated Account.

If the Partners upon the original Settlement, thought themſelves not ſafe in their Undertaking, till they were Incorporated, it is very Extraordinary the *United Society* ſhould venture to proceed and act upon a pretended Union, to which a Majority never aſſented, and to which the former Charter can be of no uſe; and if they have a legal Eſtabliſhment, which is deny'd, an Act of Parliament which has Eſtabliſh'd all that was Reaſonable and Juſt in the Union, and Incorporated them with the former Partners, whereby they may act ſafely as

One

One Body Politick, can't fairly be said to Establish vexatious Powers, disturb Property, and contradict *Magna Charta*.

And if the Maxim contain'd in the Observation, That it is better a private Mischief than a publick Inconvenience be suffer'd, should be allow'd; yet to make Persons Honest, and to act Uprightly, and to benefit the Estates of the Innocent, can't be call'd a publick Inconvenience.

And probably, not the Consideration of this Maxim was the inducement to write the Observations upon the Bill; but one more natural, (viz.) *Every one is willing to save One.*

AN ABSTRACT
OF THE
BILL

Now depending for Regulation and better Government of the COMPANY of *Painter-Stainers LONDON*: Together with ſome REASONS of the Principal Branches of it.

Preamble, fol. 1.
Declared ſo by Stat. 1 *Jac.* 20.

Grievance.

Enacted.
Stat. 5. *Eliz.* c. 4. forbids uſing any Trade, not being bred Apprentice to it, in *London*, or elſewhere.
Granted by the Charter.

Recital Stat. 1. *Jac.* cap. 20.
Grievance.
Enacted.
According to the Letters Patents of the Company, 19 *July* 3 *Eliz.* And the Stat. 1 *Jac.* cap. 20.
Stat. 1 *Rich.* 3. c. 9. No ſtranger ſhall exerciſe a Handicrafts Trade, except they firſt ſerve as Native.
Granted by their Charter.

Stat. 1. *Rich.* 3. cap. 9.

RECites it to be an ancient Company and incorporated with Power to Overſee, Rule, and Govern, all the Fellowes of the ſame Society, and all others uſing the ſame Art, and all material Works and Merchandize concerning the ſame.

That Aliens and others not free of the Company, for the moſt part unskilful, uſe the Art and and take Apprentices. 1ſt. To the prejudice of the Company. 2dly. To the detriment of the People. 3dly. The diſgrace of the Nation. And 4thly. The contempt of the Lawes.

That none uſe the Trade in *London* or miles diſtance, unleſſe bound by Indenture to one of the Company for ſeven years upon pain of for every offence.

Proviſo, That this Act ſhall not prejudice thoſe that have already ſerved ſeven years to any Free-man, and are not as yet free, ſo that they take up their freedoms before the 24th. of *December* 1664.

Proviſo, That Perſons, which for their skill in Painting are now admitted, or hereafter ſhall be admitted into the Company, ſhall not be Sued or troubled for working as a Painter within the ſaid miles of *London*, and that they ſhall not uſe the ſaid Art within the City of *London*, or the Liberties thereof.

Recites the Act 10. *Jac. cap.* 20. That forbids Plaiſterers to uſe the Painters Trade: and the *Proviſo* in it, that Plaiſterers might uſe Whiting, Blacking, Red-Lead, Red-Oaker, Yellow-Oaker, and Ruſſet mingled with ſize only and not with oyle, by pretence whereof the Plaiſterers uſe the Painters Trade.

ENACTED, That the Plaiſterers lay theſe Colours flat and plain, in ſize only and not in Oyle, and that in mixing the Colours none ſhall Glaze them with varniſh upon pain of for every offence.

Gives Power to the Maſter and Wardens, or any one of them, with ſome of the Company, not exceeding four in all, at convenient times to ſearch any Places where Painting is ſold, to ſee if it be well wrought; and if not, to ſeize it, and to carry it away, and deface and deſtroy them.

The Maſter, Wardens, Aſſiſtants, and Livery, have Power every year to chooſe twelve of the Company, being skilful Artiſts, and they or any ſeven may Licenſe Natives or Strangers, not free of the Company, being Artiſts, to uſe the Trade, not taking above pounds for the ſame, and the Perſons licenſed paying as others of the Company.

That the Maſter, Wardens, Aſſiſtants, and Livery have Power to make Reaſonable By-Lawes, for Reſtriction of the number of Apprentices and Journeymen, and for other Honourable things, for the better Government of the Company.

That all Aliens, not licenced as aforeſaid, ſhall depart the Realm or work as Journey-men, to a Free-man of the Company, and his name and his Maſters to be entred in the Hall Book *gratis*, upon pain of

The Offences ſhall be inquired of in the Kings Courts of *Weſtminſter* or the Courts of Record, within the Juriſdiction, whereof the Offences ſhall ſo be committed, the Juſtices of *Oyer* and *Terminer*, Goale delivery or of the Peace; and one moiety of the penalties to his Majeſties uſe, and the other moiety with reaſonable coſt of Suit to the Plaintiff or Informer.

THE REASONS.

1. *Rich.* 3. c. 9. 14. 15. *Hen.* 8. c. 9. 32 *H.* 6. c. 16. 5 *Eliz.* cap. 4.

FIrſt, There have been ſeveral Acts of Parliament formerly made, which will extend to the Principal Branches of this Act, but are ancient and defective in ſome things, and do not ſo well regulate and impower the Company to admit thoſe that are skilful in the Art in this manner, but they are all far more ſevere against them, then this.

2. Stat. 5 *Eliz.* an ill remedy.

Secondly, It is certain that the Stat. 5. *Eliz. cap.* 4. Provides, that none ſhall exerciſe a Trade, but that penalty being but Forty ſhillings, which is ſo little and hard to be proved, that it will be in a manner, no remedy to reduce and diſcover thoſe that work privately, and have not ſerved Seven years, in regard it cannot be done without much charge and diligence, and no coſts of Suit recovered in that Action.

3. Thirdly, Thoſe that have ſerved Seven years, it is moſt probable, are more skilful then thoſe that have not ſerved any time; and beſides, their Service and Freedom are lyable to all Duties of their Company and Taxes. And therefore, if thoſe not free ſhould have a greater Priviledge, it would not onely diſcourage the Induſtry of the Freemen, but ruine them and the Government of the Society, and make a failer in this Art.

4. Fourthly, The Freemen for the moſt part are Houſe-keepers, and bear all Publick charges; but on the contrary, the others are many of them inconſiderable perſons, and are very numerous, in and about this City, and have no certain place of Habitation: But if this Act paſs, it will bring them under the Government of the Company, and make them liable to Taxes for His Majeſty.

5. Granted by the Charter to call others to their aſſiſtance, and admit them.

Fifthly, If thoſe that are Freemen of the Company of Painter-Stainers, cannot bring in the ſtrangers, which have any equal advantage with the Members of the Company, and to bear an equal burthen with them, which is in a manner granted them by their Charter; the Company cannot be ſupported, but muſt inevitably fall, and be deſtroyed, by the encroachment upon them.

Object. *If it ſhall be Objected, That any that ſhall be famous for Painting, and comes from beyond the Seas, he ſhall not be admitted to uſe that Art.*

Anſw. The former Acts that have paſſed, provide for that, and do altogether reſtrain them: And by the Statute *Rich.* 3. if they uſe this Art, they ſhall forfit their Perſon Eſtate.

In relation to the Proviſo in the Stat. 1. *Jac. cap.* 4. which gives power to the Plaiſterers to lay Whiting, Blacking, Red Lead, Read Oaker, Yellow Oaker, and Ruſſet, mingled with Size onely.

1. *Anſw.* Firſt, The very Title of that Act is, *A Plaiſterer ſhall not uſe the Occupation of a Painter*; and the whole Body of that Act is againſt the Plaiſterers, to forbid them to uſe the Art of Painting: The intent of which *Proviſo*, was to give them liberty to uſe it, to lay thoſe Colours plain, as neceſſary for their Profeſſion about the Seiling of Rooms, and ſuch like.

2. Secondly, In the ſame Act, immediately after that *Proviſo*, there is a *Proviſo* which limits the ways of a Painter, for laying thoſe or other Colours in Size, which a high meaſure ſhews the intent of the Act to be as is above ſet forth.

3. Thirdly, The Plaiſterers under pretence of this Act, ſtretching it to their own advantage, incroach very much upon the Painters trade, in regard moſt peices of good Painting may be done by theſe Colours, with the mixture of them each with the other; whereby the Plaiſterers being altogether unskilful in that Art, pretend to do ſeveral Paintings, which are done ſo ill, as that they cannot deſerve the name of Painting, although done at far greater rates then what the Painters uſually have for Painings of that nature.

4. Fourthly; It tends to the ſcandal and diſgrace of the Art of Painting within our *Engliſh* Nation.

5. Fifthly, It hath been upon ſeveral Debates by the Painters againſt the Plaiſterers, declared by Law, to be on the Painters ſide; but to avoid theſe Strifes and Debates the Explanation of the aforeſaid *Proviſo*, is humbly offered.

The Charter, which creates the Company of Plaiſterers, gives them the name of *Dawbers*; neither is there any Charter, wherein Colours are mentioned, but the uſe of Lath, Loam, and Lime, is onely granted them.

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K

BILL

OF THE

ABSTRACT

England. Parliament
temp. Chas II Reg.

Reasons
K

E 53 *...sons for the passing of the Bill concerning the Settlement of D... ...oan upon Pawns to prevent the great Extortion of Brokers, and for the easie relief of necessitated Persons.* 204

K

AS the general necessity of men throughout the world constrains them to seek relief where it may be had, so that (for want of better) experience doth teach that they must have their recourse to such supplies as Brokers afford on Pawnes, who though for the present relieved with a loan, yet that loan proves to them as a Canker, which in a short time destroyes their whole substance.

And therefore it is that the whole Nation suffers, and doth impoverish every day, whereas others (who in their greatest distress and necessities can have their recourse to Banks of Loan) do enrich themselves, and all Trading flourishes amongst them, no beggers seen in their streets, their High wayes freed from Robbers, and their Gibbets not stored with such a number of both Sexes, as at Sessions time are seen within his *Majesties* Dominions, because Brokers do (against Statute) exercise their extortions on all needy persons, who must take their recourse unto the continual breach of the Kings Laws, by poor folks turning thieves.

1. Brokers commonly take three or four times the value of what they lend, and sixty *per Cent. per annum* for what is so pawned.
2. They do take forfeiture at three or six months.
3. They do constrain the poor to continue their pawn from month to month, so that the poor must be at the charge of a months Interest perhaps for two dayes.
4. They reckon six pence *per* pound a month, and six pence for Bill money.
5. If a pawn continue but one week above the month, they exact the two months.
6. They lend no money, but on such things as they fancy.
7. They sell the pawns without restoring the surplus to the Proprietors.
8. Pawns are often lost by Brokers carelesness of them, or becoming Bankrout; Jewels and other things of great worth have often been conveyed away, for being by them posted from one hand to another, because their particular stock could not suffice to keep those parcels. In a word, by reason of the great number of Brokers, stoln goods cannot be recovered, the owners not knowing where to enquire for them.

Now that there is a self conviction and condemnation in these things is manifest, in that they have themselves contrived and consented to a remedy, That the names of persons who borrow money on pawnes, should be recorded in an Office, but the remedy they have agreed to would prove worse then the disease.

1. For that thieves giving in false names, would be the more secured in their dishonesty.
2. In that the needy (for whom relief is intended) pawn their Estates, and record their credit, and so lose both; for that all Merchants and Tradesmen (who are the sinews of a well governed State, whose credit is of far greater consequence then their estate) would thus be exposed to jealousie and question, though they had enough to make good all

Likewise persons of more eminent quality (who may have occasion to take up money on some pawne of great value) cannot but count it derogation to their hono ur to have their names so recorded and exposed to publick view.

Likewise any man that hath a daughter to dispose of (and thereby occasion to make up some smal sum of the portion) may by this means prejudice all the rest of his children.

The sole necessary remedy against this great Grievance of the Nation, is as followeth:

To obtain of his Majesty and Parliament, leave to erect Banks of Loan, as in divers other Christian Governments, *viz. Spain, Italy, Lorrain,* some parts of *France* and the *Netherlands*, where the Banks are established and governed according to the principles of Charity and Christianity, both in respect of the borrower and lender, and in respect also of those that are continually imployed in the Office.

That the Remedies may appear to be true, a remedy, and no palliation, the benefits are here set down, per Order.

First, Banks of Loan are the safest Treasurers, being built as hereafter is expresst.

Secondly, Monies to be had there at all times, on all kind of pawns for rich and poor, at reasonable rates, and favourable advantagious conditions to the borrowers at the fifth part less charge then the Brokers extort from the necessitous, and without any forfeiture at all, without constraint to leave their pawns a months time, but with liberty to redeem them at a weeks, and allowing but ~~two~~ *three* farthings ~~and a half~~ per pound per week, instead of six pence per month, which the Brokers do extort, and three half pence which the Majestrates where Banks are established do allow.

Thirdly, Monies are lent on all kind of pawnes.

Fourthly pawnes are not sold, but on condition that the surplus shall be restored to the Proprietors.

Fifthly, None can be lost by reason of the good order and care of the Officers.

Sixthly, The Banks cannot run away, nor become Bankrout, for they are fixed where they are erected, the Stock and Jewels remaining there (and all other things of great worth) kept under treble keyes of the superior Officers. And as the Banks are free from fire and thieves (and open violence in time of uproar) so are they the only and most ready way for persons (whose Goods have been stolen) to send their Tickets to make stop of stolen Goods.

Seventhly, The Banks cannot deceive, for as there is no trust, but for Ticket and Money, the Administrators are sworn persons who have given publick security, and are under the Examination of Surintendants, authorized by the Soveraign power. They have also a Stock in the Bank, so as they are particularly concerned in its preservation.

Eighthly, The Administration of the Bank admits not of, nor is subject to Litigious Titles, nor gives doubtful expressions; as it wounds no mans Credit, for that there are no names of borrowers put in their Records, nor on their Tickets. The Tickets are divided into two parts, the one half is fixt with the Pawn, the other is given to the party that receives the Money, and bears no more save the nomination of the Pawn, the Date, and the Sum lent thereon.

Whosoever therefore sends to such a publick authorized Bank (either in the morning or in the afternoon) finds therein a Surintendent, a Recorder, a Praiser, and a Cashier, persons (as aforesaid) of known integrity, who attend at set hours, and who do admit the poorest, as well as such sent by the most eminent, who do instantly Tax the Pawn, were it but a pair of Shoos or a womans Coif, and presently relieve the needy, whom they dispatch at an instant, and disappoint none, be their Pawn never so small.

And if it happen that Merchants are constrained to send privately to the Surintendent for a considerable relief, on occasion when their Cash is unprovided, or sudden loss, or bills of Exchange surprize them, or that store of their Merchandise (by ships returned from remote parts in an unfit season for sale and good market) lyeth on their hands, the Merchandises are accepted, safely stored up, and timely relief afforded them, without publishing the Merchants name, who thereby saves his Credit, and is prevented from becoming Banquerout.

The same benefit redounds unto Tradesmen and Countreymen, when surprized for want of mony to pay their Landlord, they prevent the forfeiture of Leases, and wait a good market to discharge all.

That the Clothiers also, for want of a good market, may leave their Cloath in the Bank till better opportunity, without prejudice.

Thus all other Traders (when they want their Market and finde no Chapman) may leave their goods there till a Market come.

And as the poor people (that live from hand to mouth) do receive moneys upon their meanest Pawns, and thereby chiefly supply their necessities to manage their little trading up and down the streets, and do not so much as feel that little consideration for the use of the mony, which the Bank takes for their charges they must be at.

First, The use of the Stock wherewith the Bank must be continually provided, and is according to the Statute.

Secondly, To defray the stipends of the Surintendet, every superior, and inferior Officers under them, as Pravsers of Jewels and other sorts of precious comodities, whereby the Bank may suffer notable damage by false Jewels, the change of Fashions, the fall of Rate

Thirdly, The Rent of

These Charges are found in all other parts unavoidable, and therefore the Supream Power ... tute. The Charges must be allowed over and above the said Use.

And therefore such Magistrates have ordained it lawful to the Administrators, to take one penny *per* pound, *per* week; but the Brokers (as abovesaid) take twice, if not thrice as much, besides their over-reaching sometimes the necessitous to their utter ruine.

Secondly, That the Pawn may be redeemed every week.

Thirdly, That the Proprietor may have them a full Year and Six Weeks in the Bank, and longer if they please, renewing their Ticket yearly.

Finally, That when Proprietors suffer their Pawns to be sold, they may send to enhaunce the price at the sale day, and call for the surplusage.

Now whereas the said Magistates for the good of the Publick, have made such a Regulation, and all people under them find cause to bless God for it; much more will his Majesties Subjects have Just reason to do the like, when Banks of Loan within his Majesties Dominions, shal (as aforesaid) take no more then ~~two~~ *three* Farthings ~~and a half~~ *per* pound, *per* week, which is neer half less then Banks beyond the Seas take, when as they can have monies for their stock at four *per Cent. per An.*

All these things considered by Learned and Conscientious Divines and Lawyers, they have asserted, That such reasonable proceedings could not intrench on Usury, much less on Extortion: But contrariwise have defended it both by Reason and Scripture; whereupon the Banks aforesaid (in regard of the Pious and Charitable effects of them) have been universally called, *Mounts of Piety.*

Reasons for ye settle-
ment of Banks or loan
upon pawns —

H 864

Great Miſchiefs Daily ariſing by the common Practice of Pawn-Brokers and their Accomplices in and about the City of London, *Thieves and other diſhoneſt Perſons being thereby incouraged to Steal, Purloyn or Imbezel Goods and Chattels, for want of ſome good Law to prevent the Frauds and Concealments of Pawn-Brokers: It is therefore humbly propos'd, That an Act ſhould paſs to the Effect following:*

1. THat all Pawn-Brokers within the Weekly Bills of Mortality, and within ten reputed Miles of the ſame, now uſing that Trade, ſhall, by a certain Day, enter their Names and Deſcriptions, and the Goods in their Poſſeſſion or Power, in an Office, with the Names and Deſcriptions of the Perſons from whom they have the ſame.

2. That all Pawn-Brokers who ſhall begin that Trade ſhall within Days, enter their Names and Deſcriptions, and both they and other Pawn-Brokers, who before ſo traded or ſought a Livelyhood, ſhall, within Days after Receiving any Goods, *&c.* diſtinctly and ſeparately enter, or cauſe to be entred every Particular or Parcel, with the Quality, Quantity and reputed Value, and the Money lent thereon, together with the Names and Deſcriptions of the Perſons, from whom the ſaid Goods, *&c.* were received, with a Regiſter to be appointed by Commiſſion from the Crown, or with his Deputy or Deputies, keeping an Office within the ſaid Limits, and ſhall keep the ſame affix'd to every diſtinct Particular or Parcel, when, and as often as the Goods are Redeemed or Sold.

3. The Copies from the Regiſter ſhould within Days be returned to the Office, and Satisfaction acknowledg'd, to prevent the affixing Copies formerly taken from the Regiſter to new Parcels.

4. Every Offender againſt the Act convicted thereof, ſhould forfeit for each Offence two Thirds, to the Uſe of the Poor of the Pariſh, and one to the Searcher or Informer, upon Conviction and Failure of Paying, to be committed by a Juſtice of the Peace till Satisfaction.

5. A Searcher or Searchers appointed by the Regiſter, ſhould have free Acceſs to the Houſe, *&c.* of ſuch Pawn-Brokers, and upon Complaint upon Oath before a Juſtice of the Peace, he to grant his Warrant to the Searcher, with a Conſtable to break open Doors, *&c.*

Provided, That this Act extend not to Goldſmiths keeping publick Shops, known Merchants, or Exchange-Brokers, or Packers of Cloath, or Woollen Manufacture.

PROPOSAL

Humbly offer'd to the Honourable

816. m. 13. 206.
85

Houſe of Commons;

R. England

For an Additional Tax to be paid upon Regulating and Licenſing Pawn-Brokers; *and all manner of Perſons driving Trades or Occupations, that have not ſerved Apprentiſhips, or be not free of ſome City or Town Corporate.*

See 14. Eliz. 5th.

Nigh 1000 Bayliffs and Followers depend on the Knt. Marſhals Court.

Teſtimonials alſo for Servants, Bayliffs, Serjeants, Apparetors and their Followers, and Retaylers of all manner of Liquors (except Wine) to be Licenſed by the Juſtices of Peace, as Retaylers of Wine are Licenſed by Commiſſioners: And for the due anſwering the ſame, as well as the Duties upon Pedlers, &c: 'twill be without any Charge to His Majeſty, and with little trouble to the Perſons Licenſed.

THat Blank Licenſes may be diſperſed by the Propoſer, in Parchment, Vellum or Paper unſtamp'd, throughout the Kingdom, and a Receipt thereon, to be Sold at two Pence Price, for each Licenſe with the Receipt.

Thus an equal and more profit will be to the Clerks, than Ale-Houſe Licences are now.

That the Perſons to be Licenſed, may bring one of the ſaid Licenſes to ſome Juſtice of Peace, whoſe Clark may have three Pence for filling up the ſame.

That the ſame Licenſes as filled up, may be carried to ſome of His Majeſties Collectors * of His Duty of Exciſe, and upon paying the Duty to him, he may ſubſcribe his Name to the Receipt, and put ſome Stamp upon it, to be Felony to counterfeit: And may without a Stamp appoint a Deputy.

* They come to every Market-Town each Month.

That the Licenſe ſo ſtamped, may be Regiſtred by the Miniſter or Clerk of ſome Pariſh, who may Stamp the ſame, to ſhew it is Regiſtred, and the Conſtable and Church-Wardens may tranſmit true Copies of the Regiſtries, into the Exchequer, to be a Controll upon the Receivers or Collectors, to prevent fraud.

Apprentices above 16, to have their Indentures ſtamped, and they as well as the licenſed, to ſeize thoſe who wander without Licenſe.

That all Servants when they depart from their Maſters, Miſtreſſes or Dames may have a Teſtimonial, under the hand of the Maſter, Miſtreſs or Dame, of ſuch Servants faithful and good Service and Deportment, to be Regiſtred in the Pariſh, where the Maſter, Miſtreſs or Dame reſide or dwell; and a Duty of two Pence or more for each Teſtimonial, may be paid to ſome of the Collectors of the Exciſe of his Majeſty, and true Copies of the Regiſtry of ſuch Teſtimonials, may be tranſmitted into the Exchequer, as aforeſaid, to be a Check and Controll upon the Collectors: And whoever entertains any one to be his or her Servant without ſuch Teſtimonial, may be without Remedy, in caſe of Damage done by any Servant ſo entertained.

The Propoſer hath a Draught framed of a Licenſe and of an Acquittance, and a Model of a Stamp can procure, which cannot eaſily be counterfeited.

That no one out of Fair or Market, Buy Goods but of whom they know, or ſome one to Vouch; Nor Pawns for Reckonings of Strangers, without ſome Pariſh Officer be preſent, to prevent the Receiving or Buying ſtolen Goods.

Theſe Propoſals by modeſt computation would raiſe 300000 *l.* per Annum, *and hurt no body; for in each Pariſh there is a petty Chandlers Tippling Brandy-Shop.* 600 *in the late Reign were ſurvey'd in one great Pariſh, and were to have ſuch Pedlers Licenſes Arbitrarly; one of which may be produced, if deſir'd.*

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816. m. 13.
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A TABLE of INTEREST,

As allowed by LAW to be taken by

PAWNBROKERS,

FOR

MONEY LENT ON GOODS.

By a GENTLEMAN in the LAW.

	For Two Weeks is	For One Month is	For Two Months is	For Three Months is	For Four Months is	For Five Months is	For Six Months is
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
0 0 2½	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼
0 0 5	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼
0 0 7½	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼
0 0 10	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0½
0 1 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0½	0 0 0½
0 1 3	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0½	0 0 0½	0 0 0¾
0 1 5½	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0½	0 0 0½	0 0 0¾	0 0 0¾
0 1 8	0 0 0¼	0 0 0½	0 0 0¼	0 0 0½	0 0 0¾	0 0 0¾	0 0 1
0 1 10½	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0½	0 0 0¾	0 0 0¾	0 0 1
0 2 1	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0½	0 0 0½	0 0 0¾	0 0 1	0 0 1¼
0 2 3½	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0½	0 0 0¾	0 0 0¾	0 0 1	0 0 1¼
0 2 6	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0½	0 0 0¾	0 0 1	0 0 1¼	0 0 1½
0 2 8½	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0½	0 0 0¾	0 0 1	0 0 1¼	0 0 1½
0 2 11	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0½	0 0 0¾	0 0 1	0 0 1¼	0 0 1¾
0 3 1½	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0½	0 0 0¾	0 0 1	0 0 1¾	0 0 1¾
0 3 4	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0½	0 0 1	0 0 1¼	0 0 1¾	0 0 2
0 3 6½	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0½	0 0 1	0 0 1¼	0 0 2	0 0 2
0 3 9	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¾	0 0 1	0 0 1½	0 0 2	0 0 2¼
0 3 11½	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¾	0 0 1	0 0 1½	0 0 2	0 0 2¼
0 4 2	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¾	0 0 1¼	0 0 1½	0 0 2¼	0 0 2½
0 4 4½	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¾	0 0 1¼	0 0 1½	0 0 2¼	0 0 2½
0 4 7	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¾	0 0 1¼	0 0 1½	0 0 2½	0 0 2¾
0 4 9½	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¼	0 0 0¾	0 0 1¼	0 0 1½	0 0 2½	0 0 2¾
0 5 0	0 0 0¼	0 0 0½	0 0 1	0 0 1½	0 0 2	0 0 2½	0 0 3
0 7 6	0 0 0½	0 0 0¾	0 0 1¼	0 0 2¼	0 0 3	0 0 3¾	0 0 4½
0 10 0	0 0 0½	0 0 1	0 0 2	0 0 3	0 0 4	0 0 5	0 0 6
0 12 6	0 0 0½	0 0 1¼	0 0 2½	0 0 3¾	0 0 5	0 0 6¼	0 0 7½
0 15 0	0 0 0¾	0 0 1½	0 0 3	0 0 4½	0 0 6	0 0 7½	0 0 9
0 17 6	0 0 0¾	0 0 1¾	0 0 3½	0 0 5¼	0 0 7	0 0 8¾	0 0 10
1 0 0	0 0 1	0 0 2	0 0 4	0 0 6	0 0 8	0 0 10	0 1 0
2 0 0	0 0 2	0 0 4	0 0 8	0 1 1	0 1 4	0 1 8	0 2 0
3 0 0	0 0 3	0 0 6	0 1 0	0 1 6	0 2 0	0 2 6	0 3 0
4 0 0	0 0 4	0 0 8	0 1 4	0 2 0	0 2 8	0 3 4	0 4 0
5 0 0	0 0 5	0 0 10	0 1 8	0 2 6	0 3 4	0 4 2	0 5 0
6 0 0	0 0 6	0 1 0	0 2 0	0 3 0	0 4 0	0 5 0	0 6 0
7 0 0	0 0 7	0 1 2	0 2 4	0 3 6	0 4 8	0 5 10	0 7 0
8 0 0	0 0 8	0 1 4	0 2 8	0 4 0	0 5 4	0 6 8	0 8 0
9 0 0	0 0 9	0 1 6	0 3 0	0 4 6	0 6 0	0 7 6	0 9 0
10 0 0	0 0 10	0 1 8	0 3 4	0 5 0	0 6 8	0 8 4	0 10 0
11 0 0	0 0 11	0 1 10	0 3 8	0 5 6	0 7 4	0 9 2	0 11 0
12 0 0	0 1 0	0 2 0	0 4 0	0 6 0	0 8 0	0 10 0	0 12 0
13 0 0	0 1 1	0 2 2	0 4 4	0 6 6	0 8 8	0 10 10	0 13 0
14 0 0	0 1 2	0 2 4	0 4 8	0 7 0	0 9 4	0 11 8	0 14 0
15 0 0	0 1 3	0 2 6	0 5 0	0 7 6	0 10 0	0 12 6	0 15 0
16 0 0	0 1 4	0 2 8	0 5 4	0 8 0	0 10 8	0 13 4	0 16 0
17 0 0	0 1 5	0 2 10	0 5 8	0 8 6	0 11 4	0 14 2	0 17 0
18 0 0	0 1 6	0 3 0	0 6 0	0 9 0	0 12 0	0 15 0	0 18 0
19 0 0	0 1 7	0 3 2	0 6 4	0 9 6	0 12 8	0 15 10	0 19 0
20 0 0	0 1 8	0 3 4	0 6 8	0 10 0	0 13 4	0 16 8	1 0 0

To the PUBLIC.

THE Intereſt that is calculated in the foregoing TABLE has, by repeated Determinations in the Courts at WESTMINSTER, ever been allowed as ſufficient Intereſt for Money lent by Pawnbrokers; by which every Perſon will ſave at leaſt £.20 *per Cent.* on redeeming their Goods.—This muſt be an Object to the poorer Sort of People (many of whom are obliged to uſe ſuch Shops) if not to the Community in general.—Any Perſon tendering the Money lent, with Intereſt according to this Table, has TWO Remedies to recover his Property; ONE by a Summons before a Magiſtrate, who will oblige the Pawnbroker to deliver up the Things in Queſtion,—and THE OTHER, by an Action at Law brought in any Court of Record at WESTMINSTER, or elſewhere, for Recovery of the Goods pledged.

Sold at No. 23, CHAPEL-COURT, BOROUGH; at Mr. YATES's, GREAT MARY-LE-BONE-STREET, MARY-LE-BONE; and by all News-carriers in LONDON.

816. m. 13.
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THE CASE OF THE *PEWTERERS* of *ENGLAND*,

As to the Exportation of *Pewter*.

19. *H.* VII. 4. *H.* VIII. 25. *H.* VIII. 33. *H.* VIII. BY the Statutes of this Kingdom, all *Pewter* is to be made to a perfect Fineneſs, which has been, and continues to be carefully obſerved; in which ſaid *Pewter*, 20 *C.* Weight of *Tin* is conſumed to make 20 *C.* Weight of *Pewter*.

In *Pewter* made beyond the Seas, (as has been lately made appear by ſeveral Tryals before the Warden and other Officers of Her Majeſty's Mint in the Tower of *London*) there is in ſome but 14, ſome 15, and the moſt but 16 *C.* Weight of *Tin*, uſed in 20 *C.* Weight of *Pewter*, the reſt *Lead*.

Whereby, at a modeſt Compute, more than a 100 Ton Weight of *Tin per Annum*, is leſs conſumed than would be, if wrought according to the Eſſay of *London*; and by which they Underſell us in all Foreign Markets.

Wherefore it's Humbly Prayed, that in regard the Conſumption of *Tin* is ſo much leſſened as well as the Manufacture of *Pewter* ſo much diſcouraged, (in which a great Number of Perſons and Families are Employed) this Honourable Houſe will take the ſame into Conſideration, and at leaſt, let *Pewter* go out Cuſtom free, to Preſerve (as much as may be) that Manufacture at Home, and Retrieve the uſe of *Tin*.

Note, *That for Eight or Nine Years paſt, the Cuſtom of* 2 s. per *C.* on Pewter *Exported, did not amount to* 400 *l.* per Annum.

THE PEWTERERS CASE.

H. 116
Pb. pr. 13.
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THE PIN-MAKERS CASE

In Oppoſition to Mr. KILLIGREW'S *Monopolizing BILL.*

THE Pin-makers were Incorporated by King *James* the I. and greatly encouraged by ſucceeding Princes, ſo that the Art of Pin-making is at this time arrived to a greater Perfection than ever in this Kingdom, and the *Pin-makers* are able to make better Wares at eaſier Rates than any foreign Nation; whereby their Trade at home is ſecured from the *Intruſion of Foreigners*, while they quietly carry on a very conſiderable Trade abroad into almoſt all the parts of the World, there being exported at leaſt *a third part* of what Pins are made in *England*; the Trade of which Manufacture being only to be improved by a free exerciſe thereof, which the intended Act will altogether deſtroy by ſetting up *ſo groſs a Monopoly* in ſo conſiderable a Manufacture which muſt inevitably reduce the Pin-makers to the ſame condition the *Card-makers* are now brought to, by the like means, in the Reign of King *Charles* the II. even to the ruine of their Trade and themſelves together.

Objection. But it may be Objected this is no *Monopoly* but only a good deſign to take care of the Poor, whereof there are great Numbers in that Company.

Reſp. I. A great cauſe hereof is from themſelves, the Company generally taking poor Peoples Children Apprentices, who when they come out of their times preſently ſet up for Maſters, without Stock or Credit, and are thereby forced to under-ſell their Goods by reaſon of their neceſſities, which might be prevented, and they get a good Livelihood, would they continue and work Journey work; and by this means the Number of Apprentices are increaſed to ſuch an unlimited Number, notwithſtanding the Companies care in reſtraining them, many Maſter-Pin-makers not being able now to procure ſufficient hands to work their Goods.

Reſp. II. This is a plain *Monopoly*, if theſe Inſidents be conſidered.

1. The Inhancing the Price very extravagantly to the Burthen of the Subject, and Inriching ſome private Perſons, as appears by the advance of near 40000 *l per Annum* in the Pins.
2. By diſcouraging this Art in giving encouragement to Foreigners to ſtock our Market by putting the dealers in theſe Goods to ſeek to be ſupplyed at eaſier rates than is propoſed by this Act, if it paſs, as was done in the like caſe of the *Card-makers*.
3. By improveriſhing the makers by ſtinting them in their Work, and obliging them to ſit ſtill at the pleaſure of the *Undertakers*, a Method very ſtrange to enable the Poor workmen to live, who cannot now the Trade is Free and Open.
4. By cauſing the Commodity to be worſe made, which will neceſſarily enſue, becauſe the Prices being ſet, the Workers are to have a certain Price for ſuch ſorts, good or bad, and by that means the Pins will be ill made; and ſo, in a ſhort time, will deſervedly loſe their Reputation both at home and abroad, the natural conſequence whereof will be to give this ſo conſiderable a Trade to the *Dutch*.

Beſides, many other inconveniencies will neceſſarily attend this Deſign, if this Bill ſhould paſs, as is ſhewn more particularly in the Opponent's Reaſons, and many more will be made appear, if they may *be Heard*, both in reference to the Merchant, Worker, and Buyer.

A Scheme of the Advance of the Prices of Pins by Mr. *Killigrew*, to what they now are ſold at.

Names and Weights.	*At the preſent Price.* Beſt l.	s.	d.	2d ſort. l.	s.	d.	3d ſort. l.	s.	d.	*At Mr.* Killigrew's *Price.* Beſt. l.	s.	d.	2d ſort. l.	s.	d.	3d ſort. l.	s.	d.	*The Advance thereby.* Beſt. l.	s.	d.	2d ſort. l.	s.	d.	3d ſort. l.	s.	d.
Two Pounds, Four Ounces,	0	6	0	0	5	0	0	4	6	0	10	0	0	9	0	0	8	6	0	4	0	0	4	0	0	4	0
Two Pounds, Eight Ounces,	0	6	6	0	6	0	0	5	6	0	10	05	0	09	11	0	9	5	0	4	0	0	3	11	0	3	11
Two Pounds, Twelve Ounces,	0	7	0	0	6	6	0	6	0	0	10	10	0	10	4	0	9	10	0	3	10	0	3	10	0	3	10
Three Pounds.	0	7	6	0	7	0	0	6	6	0	11	2	0	10	8	0	10	2	0	3	8	0	3	8	0	3	8
Three Pounds, Four Ounces,	0	8	0	0	7	6	0	7	0	0	11	8	0	11	2	0	10	8	0	3	8	0	3	8	0	3	8
Three Pounds, Eight Ounces,	0	8	6	0	8	0	0	7	6	0	12	0	0	11	6	0	11	0	0	3	6	0	3	6	0	3	6
Three Pounds, Twelve Ounces,	0	9	0	0	8	6	0	8	0	0	12	6	0	12	0	0	11	6	0	3	6	0	3	6	0	3	6
Short Whites.																											
One Pound.	0	6	0	0	4	9	0	4	6	0	8	2	0	7	8	0	7	2	0	3	2	0	2	11	0	2	8
One Pound, Six Ounces,,	0	5	6	0	5	0	0	4	9	0	8	8	0	8	2	0	7	8	0	3	2	0	3	2	0	2	11
One Pound, Ten Ounces,	0	5	9	0	5	6	0	5	0	0	9	0	0	8	6	0	8	0	0	3	0	0	8	0	0	3	0
Lillikins.	0	6	6	0	6	0	0	5	6	0	9	0	0	8	6	0	8	0	0	2	6	0	2	6	0	2	6
Middle Whites.																											
Two Pound, Four Ounces,	0	7	6	0	7	0	0	6	6	0	10	2	0	9	8	0	9	2	0	2	8	0	2	8	0	2	8
Double long Whites *alias.* Calkins,																											
Three Pounds, Eight Ounces,	0	8	6	0	8	0	0	7	6	0	12	4	0	11	10	0	11	4	0	3	10	0	3	10	0	3	10
Four Pounds,	0	9	6	0	9	0	0	8	6	0	13	1		12	7	0	12	1	0	3	7	0	3	7	0	3	7
Packets.																											
Nine Ounces,	0	12	0	0	11	6	0	11	0	0	16	8	0	16	2	0	15	8	0	4	8	0	4	8	0	4	8
Eleven Ounces,	0	14	0	0	13	5	0	13	0	1	0	0	0	19	6	0	19	0	0	6	0	0	6	6	0	6	0
Thirteen Ounces,	0	16	0	0	15	6	0	15	0	1	3	6	1	3	0	1	2	6	0	7	6	0	7	6	0	7	6
Sixteen Ounces,	0	19	0	0	18	6	0	18	0	1	8	10	1	8	2	1	7	10	0	9	10	0	9	8	0	9	10
Twenty Ounces,	1	4	0	1	3	6	1	3	0	1	17	6	1	17	0	1	16	6	0	13	6	0	13	6	0	13	6
Twenty Four Ounces,	1	16	0	1	15	6	1	15	0	2	7	0	2	6	0	2	6	0	0	11	0	0	11	0	0	11	
Spaniſh Pins,																											
Six Pounds,	0	12	0	0	11	6	0	11	0	0	16	8	0	16	2	0	15	8	0	4	8	0	4	8	0	4	8
Seven Pounds,	0	14	0	0	13	6	0	13	0	0	19	0	0	18	6	0	18	0	0	5	0	0	5	0	0	5	0
Eight Pounds,	0	16	0	0	15	6	0	15	0	1	1	0	1	0	6	1	0	0	0	5	0	0	5	0	0	5	0

Pinnakers Case

816. mo. 13. 89

The CASE or PETITION of the Corporation of PIN-MAKERS, *London.*

THE Corporation of the Pin-Makers of the City of *London* are a Corporation first incorporated by Charter of King *James* the First, confirmed afterwards and enlarged by King *Charles* the First, and now lastly confirmed again by Letters Patents of His Majesty King *Charles* the Second, and into the Membership, Regulation, and Government of this Company are all the Pin-Makers in *England* and *Wales* incorporated.

This Company consists for the most part of poor and indigent People, who have neither Credit nor Mony to purchase Wyre of the Merchant at the best hand, but are forced for want thereof, to buy only small Parcels of the second or third Buyer, as they have occasion to use it, and to sell off the Pins they make of the same from Week to Week, as soon as they are made, for ready Mony, to feed themselves, their Wives, and Children, whom they are constrained to imploy to go up and down every *Saturday* Night from Shop to Shop to offer their Pins to Sale, otherwise cannot have Mony to buy Bread.

And these are daily so exceedingly multiplyed and encreased by reason of the unlimited Number of Apprentices that some few covetous minded Members of the Company (who have considerable Stocks) do constantly imploy and keep, that they are not able to live one by another when they come out of their Times. Besides that, they are exceedingly prejudiced in their Trades, and under-sold by the clandestine Importation of foreign Pins from beyond the Seas, which are daily exposed and put to Sale here under the *English* Mark, to the great abuse of the King and Queens liege People, the same being slight and unserviceable (and at the best), far worse than those of the *English* making.

The Persons that buy the Pins from the Maker, to sell again to other retailing Shop-keepers, taking Advantage of this Necessity of the poor Workman (who are always forced to sell for ready Mony, or otherwise cannot subsist), have by degrees so beaten down the Price of Pins, that the Workman is not able to live of his Work, and make serviceable Wares; and divers of them have been constrained to sell their Pins for less than the Wyre cost them, to provide Bread for their necessitous Families, which otherwise must perish; whereupon many have been compelled to give over their Trades, and betake themselves to be Porters, Tankard-Bearers, and other Day-Labourers, who formerly lived very well, and many of their Children do daily become Parish-Charges.

And those who continue, are constrained to make their Pins of weak, insufficient, and defective Wyre, or otherwise they must sell at loss. The richer sort, who are but few, and perhaps may have some small Stock to buy a quantity of Wyre at the best hand, are by these means likewise constrained to give longer time to the Buyer than their Stocks will bear; to ballance which ill Convenience, they are forced to make their Pins every day worse and worse; and by this means the Trade decays more and more, and the Credit and Estimation of *English* Pins is lost in foreign Parts, where they always heretofore were wont to out-sell those of any other Nation (it being then a considerable Manufacture) and the Trade is conveyed into the hands of Foreigners.

To recover which, and to prevent the Ruin of their Trade, the Company find only one Expedient, which is, to agree with some Person or Persons to raise a Stock for them, which Persons to have always Thirty Thousand Pounds at the least, and with part thereof to furnish as well the poor as the richer sort with Wyre of all sorts (to be ready laid in at some convenient place to be provided for that purpose) at one and the same certain Rate, as they shall have occasion to use it, and so much in Ready Mony as will weekly buy off from the Pin-Makers hands all the Pins they shall make of that Wyre, at one and the same Price both to rich and poor. And the Company have covenanted with *William Killigrew*, Esquire, and his Partners, to buy and take off from his or their hands Two Hundred Tun of Wyre yearly, and so much more as they shall have occasion to use at a certain Profit agreed upon between them, and to bring to the Hall to be provided for that purpose, and there weekly sell to the said *William Killigrew*, and his Partners, Agents, and Assigns, all the Pins they shall make with the same Wyre, at the Rates and Prices mentioned in a *Schedule* which they have annexed to their Petition, which Prices do not exceed what they were heretofore sold at, when the Commodity could be afforded to be well and truly made.

And the said *William Killigrew*, in consideration of the Profit that he and his Partners are to have upon the Wyre, hath covenanted with the Pin-Makers to take of weekly from the hands of every Member of the said Company, all the Pins he or they shall so make, and bring at the Rates and Prices so agreed upon, and to sell the same again to the Shop-keepers, and all other their Majesties Subjects, at the same Rates and Prices, without enhauncing the same, or making any Profit or Advantage thereupon.

And the sole End of this Proposal, is to raise up again the Credit, Estimation, and Goodness of the Commodity, both at home and abroad, and to keep themselves from being made a Prey to the Avarice of others, who eat out all the Profit of their Labour.

But because the said *William Killigrew*, and his Partners, are unwilling to venture on the said Contract, wherein so great a Stock is to be concerned, without the warrant of an Act of Parliament, to declare the lawfulness thereof, the Contract being on condition that an Act of Parliament do pass. The Pin-Makers are therefore humble Petitioners to Their Majesties and both Houses of Parliament, for a Declaratory Act in that behalf, which they rather hope will not be deny'd them, for that there is no other way left to preserve the Manufacture.

And for encouragement of so considerable an *English* Manufacture, they likewise humbly pray all foreign Pins may by a stricter Law than formerly be prohibited to be imported, and to stop the unreasonable encrease and multiplying of Pin-Makers who have little or no Stocks, and are already hardly able to live one by another. They are likewise Petitioners, That no Pin-Makers may be permitted to keep above Three Apprentices at a time, and those not for less than Seven Years by Indenture bound, as in the Trade of *Felt-Making* is already Enacted by Parliament, in the First Year of the Reign of King *James* the First.

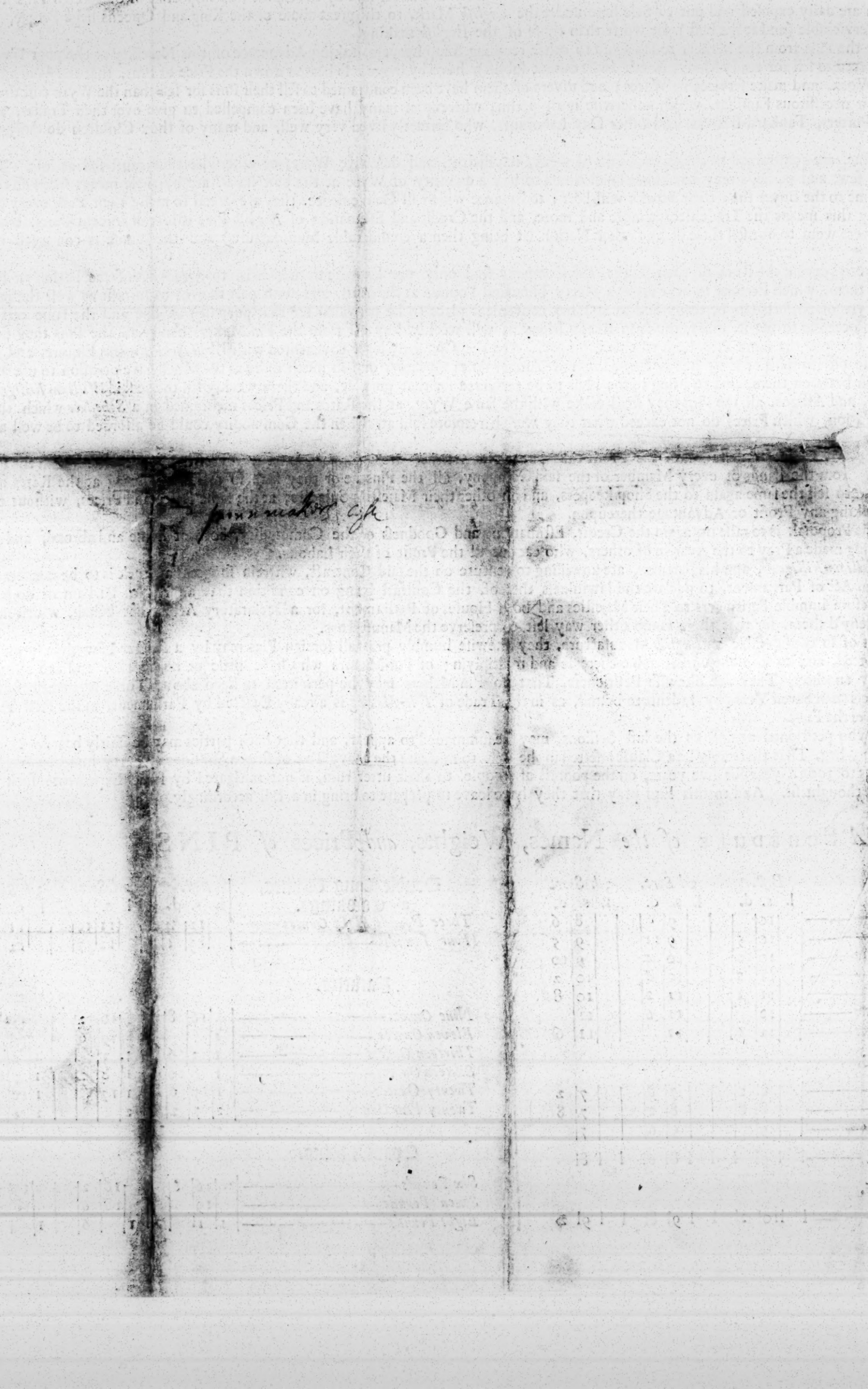
And that all Persons who petitioned against us the last Sessions, may be summoned to appear, and that both parties may be fairly heard.

Lastly, We most humbly beg, That there may be a Clause inserted in the Act, to mitigate the heavy Tax of fifteen Shillings on every hundred Weight of Wyre, which amounts to 3000 *l.* year for five years, on the poorest of People, to their utter ruin, if not mitigated by some Expedient: such as in your Wisdom shall be thought fit. And to this End pray that they have leave to prepare to bring in a Bill accordingly.

A SCHEDULE *of the* Names, Weights, *and* Prices *of* PINS.

	Best. l. s. d.	*2d. Sort.* l. s. d.	*3d. Sort.* l. s. d.
Two Pounds Four Ounces	10	9	8 6
Two Pounds Eight Ounces	10 5	9 11	9 5
Two Pounds Twelve Ounces	10 10	10 4	9 10
Three Pounds	11 2	10 8	10 2
Three Pounds Four Ounces	11 8	11 2	10 8
Three Pounds Eight Ounces	12	11 6	11
Three Pounds Twelve Ounces	12 6	12	11 6
Short Whites.			
One Pound	8 2	7 8	7 2
One Pound Six Ounces	8 8	8 2	7 8
One Pound Ten Ounces	9	9 6	7
Lillikins.	1 1 9	1 1 8	1 1 8
Middle Whites.			
Two Pounds Four Ounces	1 10	1 1 9	1 1 9

Double Long Whites, al. Cawkings.	*Best.* l. s. d.	*2d. Sort.* l. s. d.	*3d. Sort.* l. s. d.
Three Pounds Eight Ounces	12 4	11 10	11 4
Four Pounds	13 1	12 7	12 1
Packetts.			
Nine Ounces	16 8	16 2	15 8
Eleven Ounces	1	19 6	19
Thirteen Ounces	1 3 6	1 3	1 2 6
Sixteen Ounces	1 8 10	1 8 2	1 7 10
Twenty Ounces	1 17 6	1 17	1 16 6
Twenty Four Ounces	2 7 2	2 6	2 6
Spanish Pins.			
Six Pounds	16 8	16 2	15 8
Seven Pounds	19	18 6	18
Eight Pounds	1 1	1 6	1



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816. m. 13 - 210

REASONS *humbly offer'd by the* Grocers *of the City of* London, *againſt Part of the* BILL *now depending in the* HONOURABLE HOUSE *of* COMMONS, *Entituled,* A BILL to prevent the bringing in the Infection, by the clandeſtine running of Goods.

THE Grocers trade in no Goods liable to Infection, or which are prohibited, or in any other of the Commodities particularly named in the ſaid Bill.

But their Trade conſiſts in a Variety of Cuſtomable or Foreign Goods, and the Parcels which they ſend by Land make up ſometimes near Twenty Articles of Cuſtomable or Foreign Commodities, of very ſmall Value; and in Order to ſuit the Trade, and execute the Orders of their ſeveral Chapmen, in regard of Price and otherwiſe, they are often obliged to put ſeveral Sorts of Goods together, bought of different Importers, and ſo can't take out thoſe regular Permits which the ſaid Bill ſeems to require, or make thoſe regular Proofs of the Cuſtoms thereof being paid, in Caſe of the Stopping, or Seizure, of ſuch Goods; though what they chiefly deal in is univerſally known to be regularly imported, and no Ways liable to be run.

Beſides, They are hourly ſending their Goods by ſeveral Sorts of Carriages, generally at no more than One or Two Hours Notice, and very often have their Orders for Goods late at Night, to forward them early next Morning; in both which Caſes they can't obtain timely Permits, and ſo they would be continually interrupted in their Trade, as well as their ſeveral Chapmen, to their mutual Damage; and this will neceſſarily leſſen our Trade, and His Majeſty's Revenues.

The moſt fair Trader will, by ſuch a Bill, be always liable to be interrupted, and impoſed on by Officers, however clear the Caſe may appear upon Examination about his Goods, which may be ſeiz'd and detain'd: And ſince Proof is to be made to the Satisfaction of the Commiſſioners of the Cuſtoms, how often will the Fair Trader be under Difficulties, as he is no Importer, when the ſaid Goods have paſſed through ſeveral Hands before he bought them.

If the BILL paſſes, it would be an unſupportable Burden on every Fair Trader, not only in this City, but in every Corporation and Trading Town of GREAT BRITAIN, and impracticable for them, and the Grocers in particular, to carry on their Trades. And therefore they humbly hope, That under the preſent great Decay and Interruption of Trade, through the Calamities of the Nation, they ſhall not labour under ſuch ſevere Hardſhips in carrying on their Trade, ſo beneficial to the Publick; eſpecially when ſuch new Burdens, (as they conceive) ſeem no Ways to conduce to the Publick Good, and are foreign to the Intention of ſuch a BILL.

REASONS *humbly offer'd by the* Grocers *of the City of* London, *againſt Part of the* BILL *now depending in the* HONOURABLE HOUSE *of* COMMONS, *Entituled,* A BILL to prevent the bringing in the Infection by the clandeſtine running of Goods.

REASONS *humbly offer'd by the* Grocers *of the City of* London, *againſt Part of the* BILL *now depending in the* HONOURABLE HOUSE *of* COMMONS, *Entituled,* A BILL to prevent the bringing in the Infection, by the clandeſtine running of Goods.

816. m. 13. 91

THE Grocers trade in no Goods liable to Infection, or which are prohibited, or in any other of the Commodities particularly named in the ſaid Bill.

But their Trade conſiſts in a Variety of Cuſtomable or Foreign Goods, and the Parcels which they ſend by Land make up ſometimes near Twenty Articles of Cuſtomable or Foreign Commodities, of very ſmall Value; and in Order to ſuit the Trade, and execute the Orders of their ſeveral Chapmen, in regard of Price and otherwiſe, they are often obliged to put ſeveral Sorts of Goods together, bought of different Importers, and ſo can't take out thoſe regular Permits which the ſaid Bill ſeems to require, or make thoſe regular Proofs of the Cuſtoms thereof being paid, in Caſe of the Stopping, or Seizure, of ſuch Goods; though what they chiefly deal in is univerſally known to be regularly imported, and no Ways liable to be run.

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The moſt fair Trader will, by ſuch a Bill, be always liable to be interrupted, and impoſed on by Officers, however clear the Caſe may appear upon Examination about his Goods, which may be ſeiz'd and detain'd: And ſince Proof is to be made to the Satisfaction of the Commiſſioners of the Cuſtoms, how often will the Fair Trader be under Difficulties, as he is no Importer, when the ſaid Goods have paſſed through ſeveral Hands before he bought them.

If the Danger of the Infection could be ſuppoſed to ariſe from ſending Goods out of their Warehouſes and Shops to their ſeveral Cuſtomers, How can it appear that the Danger is leſs by the Officers Seizure of them? Or how can it be reconciled to Reaſon, that in order to prevent the bringing in the Infection, every other Perſon, as well as Traders, are to become Tributary and Slaves to the Will of every malicious and mercenary inferior Officer; ſome of which are juſtly ſuſpected of being concern'd in the immediate Running of Goods, which can only contribute to the bringing in the Infection.

What Publick Evil have the Traders of this City and other Parts done, that under the Pretence of preventing the Infection, their Liberties muſt be ſlided into the Hands of Officers? What Good have the inferior Officers done, that they are ſtill to be complimented with a new Power which ought not to be known in *Great Britain?*

If the BILL paſſes, it would be an unſupportable Burden on every Fair Trader, not only in this City, but in every Corporation and Trading Town of GREAT BRITAIN, and impracticable for them, and the Grocers in particular, to carry on their Trades. And therefore they humbly hope, That under the preſent great Decay and Interruption of Trade, through the Calamities of the Nation, they ſhall not labour under ſuch ſevere Hardſhips in carrying on their Trade, ſo beneficial to the Publick; eſpecially when ſuch new Burdens, (as they conceive) ſeem no Ways to conduce to the Publick Good, and are foreign to the Intention of ſuch a BILL.

REASONS *humbly offer'd by the* Grocers *of the City of* London, *againſt Part of the* Bill *now depending in the* Honourable House *of* Commons, *Entituled,* A Bill to prevent the bringing in the Infection by the clandeſtine running of Goods.

Captain Dunning's SCHEME, *for effectually preventing the Progreſs of the* PLAGUE, *if any Part of* Great-Britain *or* Ireland *ſhould be infected, humbly propoſed to the* KING'S *moſt excellent* MAJESTY, *and to Both Houſes of* PARLIAMENT.

FORASMUCH as the Subject Matter of this Scheme, is of the greateſt Importance; and that it is in vain to make Propoſals to thoſe who have not Authority to obſerve them; and as it is the Duty of all Men to ſtudy the Welfare of their Country, I ſhall make no Excuſe for laying theſe Propoſals before the Greateſt Monarch upon Earth, and the moſt Auguſt Aſſembly in the Univerſe.

As the Meaſures hitherto obſerved by thoſe Regencies, in which this terrible Diſtemper hath already raged, have proved altogether ineffectual to prevent the ſpreading of the Contagion, or rather contributed to the Encreaſe of it; it becomes a prudent Government to take Meaſures diſtinct from thoſe, whoſe pernicious Conſequences have been already proved.

Firſt, Then, I propoſe, that in Caſe the following Scheme is approved of, a Law be made, to warrant the putting it in Execution, if the Laws, now in being, will not do it.

Secondly, That ſuch a Number of Phyſicians, Surgeons, and Apothecaries, (of thoſe who are at this Time in the King's Pay, or Sallary,) as ſhall be agreed on in Council, be obliged to ſend their Names forthwith to one of his Majeſty's Secretaries of State, under the Penalty of being caſher'd; and to take an Oath before the next Magiſtrate, that they will ſerve the King to the utmoſt of their Power in the Attendance of thoſe ſick in the Plague, if any ſuch Thing happen, in purſuance of the Directions of the Law, in that Caſe made; and every ſuch Phyſician, *&c.* to have ſuch a Reward as ſhall be agreed on in Council, upon the Magiſtrate's certifying that he hath taken the Oath preſcrib'd.

Thirdly, That thoſe Phyſicians be proportioned, or cantoned, in ſuch great Towns as are moſt likely to be infected, and their Names and Places of Abode made publick; and they obliged not to go above two Miles from the known Place of their Abode, without another Phyſician's being at the known Place of their abode at that Time.

Fourthly, That the Inhabitants of every Houſe be obliged, on pain of Death, to apply to one of thoſe Phyſicians within two Hours after any one is taken ſick in that Houſe; which ſaid Phyſician be obliged, on pain of Death, forthwith to viſit the ſaid ſick Perſon or Perſons; and in caſe he adjudge it to be the Plague, that he be empowered and commanded, forthwith to iſſue his Warrant to the Conſtable, or other Pariſh Officer, forthwith to provide covered Waggons or Carts, and to impreſs Men to attend 'em to remove the ſick Perſons, (with their Bedding, Goods, and Neceſſaries, and Neceſſaries to erect Tents) to ſome Common or Down remote from the ſaid Town, and from all Houſes and Highways, diſcretionary in the ſaid Phyſician: And that the ſaid Phyſician, and ſuch Apothecary, as he thinks fit, go with them in other Carriages or Coaches, and all the reſt of that Family, to attend 'em in ſuch Manner, as the ſaid Phyſician or Apothecary think fit. The Phyſician and Apothecary's Place to be ſupplied by thoſe of the ſame Town, if any; if not, then by thoſe of the next Town; and that none of them preſume to return without Leave, on pain of Death; and that the Waggons return but within one Mile of the Town, to be ſent for as Occaſion offers; and the Owner or Proprietor of the Land, in which the Tents are pitched, to be paid for his Damages, as the Government ſhall hereafter appoint.

Fifthly, That no Perſon of the Street, in which any Perſon hath been ſick, preſume to go out of it, on pain of Death, without Leave from the reſiding Phyſician.

Sixthly,

Sixthly, The Charge of all this to be laid out by the Overſeers of the Poor, for the time being, of the Pariſh in which the Infection ſhall happen, for Proviſions, Drugs, Phyſicians, *&c.* and to be repaid out of the *Exchequer*, and that to be repaid by a Tax for that Purpoſe, if the Charge become conſiderable.

Theſe Meaſures being ſeaſonably concerted, with ſome Enlargements, and ſtrictly executed; by God's Bleſſing, a ſpeedy Stop may be put to the Progreſs of this terrible Diſtemper, if God ſhould permit it to viſit any Part of theſe Iſlands: The Plague not being incident to the Climate, in which theſe Iſlands are, and being never known to reach us, but by the coming over of infected Perſons, or Goods from foreign Parts; (ſo that few are infected at firſt, and conſequently eaſily ſtoped;) both which have been as well fenced againſt by the Government, as the Nature of the Caſe will admit.

Theſe Propoſals (humbly ſubmitted to better Judgments) ſeem more agreeable to the Laws of God, and to the Preſervation of Mankind, than the uſual Meaſures taken in thoſe Exigencies, of nailing up of infected Houſes, where the dead Bodies often lay ſome Weeks, at leaſt Days, unburied, and the rotting of the Dead infects the Living; or than the begirting of Cities infected, with Armies, in which Thouſands of innocent and healthy People are obliged to ſtay until infected, under the terrible Apprehenſion of Famine, Rapine, and Murder. But the ſureſt Way, is by a Reformation of our Manners, to prevent its coming into the Nation, as a Judgment of God's on us, for our Iniquities, (for that will baffle the Foreſight of the Stateſman, and the Skill of the Phyſician,) particularly that of prophane Curſing and Swearing; for, as all other Sins have ſomething inviting in 'em, and carry ſome Shew of Modeſty, as being done by Stealth, thoſe provoke the Almighty to his Face, and in the open Street, without the leaſt Temptation of Pleaſure or Reward, and are the greateſt of Scandals upon the Nation; whoſe Language (being improved to the Preheminence of the Univerſe,) is ſuggeſted to ſtand in need of the odious Mixture of Oaths and Curſes; and this I humbly conceive may as eaſily be (for the moſt Part, if not wholly) prevented, by an Act of Parliament, as our Legiſlators can return from the Parliament Houſe. In the following Manner. If, inſtead of the Laws now in being, in that Caſe provided, whereby the Informer is ſometimes obliged to borrow a Horſe, and ride 14 or 15 Miles to a Juſtice of the Peace, and to be at the Charge of a Warrant, to gain a Shilling for the Poor of his Pariſh; I humbly propoſe, that it be made lawful for any Perſon to convict another in the Street, or whitherſoever elſe he hears him prophanely ſware or curſe, by touching his Cloths, and telling him, that he prophanely ſwore or curſed: That the Perſon ſo charged, be obliged forthwith to lay down his Shilling, for the uſe of the Convictor; or for want of Money, to leave a Garment or other Pawn with the Convictor, redeemable in an Hour, at that Place, by paying one Shilling; and if not redeemed by that time, to be forfeited to the Convictor; and in Caſe the Perſon ſo touched, and charged, reſiſt or fly, on Proof thereof before the Juſtices of the Peace, at the next General Quarter-Seſſions of the Peace, for the County or Place, by two ſufficient Witneſſes, that he or ſhe be liable to be tranſported to one of his Majeſty's Iſlands: That the Convictor be ſo ſerved, if he removes with the Pawn within one Hour.

By this Means there would be no Trouble in the Conviction; and no Perſon being to be convicted of more than one Oath at a time, the Temptation to abuſe the Authority would be but ſmall; and the Poor, who now are ſtarving in the Streets, would be able to maintain themſelves, until the Age is reformed: The meaneſt Perſon in the Streets, being capable of convicting the moſt hectoring Bulley.

I doubt not but that theſe Propoſals (being all new) will meet with ſome Objections. But as I had the Honour to baffle all the Oppoſers of his Majeſty's Title to theRealms of *Great Britain*, by an Argument never before uſed for that Purpoſe, abbreviated in a printed Letter to Mr. *Shepherd*, which rides in Triumph to this Day; and as I found out the ſingle Way to defeat Confederacies of Mobb Weavers, and other Tradeſmen, who boaſted to be a Hundred and Fifty Thouſand; and as I could find out a Method for fixing the Foundation of the Light-houſe on *Ediſtone*, nigh *Plymouth*, after it had baffled the famous Mr. *Winſtanley*, and all the late Queen's Engineers; I hope I may conclude with holy *David*, (having ſlain a Lyon and a Bear,) that an uncircumciſed *Philiſtine* ſhall be like one of them; if the Authority (to whom propoſed,) think fit to paſs them with proper Enlargements, into a Law.

F I N I S.

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THE CASE OF THE INHABITANTS of the Liberty of *WESTMINSTER*, AGAINST *The Clauſes, propoſed by the Juſtices of the Peace, to a* BILL *now Paſſing, to require* QUARENTINE.

THE ſaid Clauſes are introduced with a Suggeſtion, That the keeping the Streets Clean, will prevent the ſpreading of any Contagion. And the Intent of them is:

1*ſt*, That there be Two Surveyors of every Ward, to be approved of at their Petty Seſſions, and theſe Perſons are to be informed, upon Oath, to the Juſtices, of every Inhabitant's Neglect, in repairing and cleaning the Streets, or any Dirt or Duſt left at their Doors.

2*dly*, That the Juſtices themſelves ſhall, twice in every Year, take a View, and convict any Inhabitant or Officer, as they think guilty of any Neglect.

3*dly*, That ſuch Surveyor and the Beadle, ſhall, twice in every Week, at the Charge of the Inhabitants, take a View of the reſpective Defects and Deficiencies in the Cleaning and Paving the Streets.

4*thly*, That the Inhabitants have a Power to mend their own Doors, when broken up by the Proprietors of any Water-works, and oblige ſuch Proprietors to pay for the ſame.

5*thly*, That not only Fines, but Corporal Puniſhments, are to be inflicted by this *Act*.

Which Clauſes the Inhabitants of the City and Liberty of *Weſtminſter* do humbly hope, will not paſs into a Law, for the following REASONS:

I. For that by an Act of Parliament 2*do Will*^{o} *&* *Mariæ*, and by ſeveral other Laws, there is ſufficient Proviſion for Cleaning the Streets twice a Week, and repairing the Pavements within the Bills of Mortality; and ſufficient Penalties are thereby inflicted, as appears, not only by the *Act*, but alſo by the *Abſtract* now printed by the Juſtices. —— As to the Liberty of *Weſtminſter*, there is always a Jury of near Thirty Men, whoſe Buſineſs it is, conſtantly to divide themſelves into the ſeveral Pariſhes, and take a View of the Pavements and cleaning the Streets, and to preſent and fine Defaulters in thoſe Particulars, and alſo all other Annoyances: And a new Law is meant, only to take away the Juriſdiction of the Court of *Weſtminſter*, and to inveſt a Power in the Juſtices, to redreſs Grievances, which are more eaſily done, to the Inhabitants, by that Court, which is of an ancient and immemorial Authority.

II. That the Method uſed in the City of *London* for the like Offences, each Inhabitant is ſummoned by an Officer, called the Serjeant of the Kennel, before the Lord-Mayor, to redreſs ſuch Grievances; and the Burgeſs-Court of *Weſtminſter* has like Powers herein, as the City of *London*, and to Summon or give Notice to every Inhabitant, Weekly, or oftner, to redreſs the like Grievances within their Liberty: And, therefore, 'tis humbly preſumed, That whatever Occaſion there may be for inlarging the Power to the Juſtices in *Middleſex*, there is no ſuch Occaſion within the City and Liberty of *Weſtminſter*.

III. That by an Act of Parliament for Eſtabliſhing the *Hay-Market*, the Toll for the Hay is appropriated for the Amendment of that Street, under the Cognizance of the *Middleſex* Juſtices; and, yet, 'tis notorious, That no Street within the Bills of Mortality, is ſo ill Paved and Cleanſed as that is: And tho' many Preſentments have been made to the Burgeſs-Court; yet, the Officer appointed by the Juſtices, who receive that Duty, living in *Middleſex*, little or no Redreſs has been had therein. The like Obſervations may be juſtly made on *Holborn*, St. *Giles*'s, *Alderſgate-Street*, and St. *John*'s-*Street*, and other In-lets to the Town, the Cogni-

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zance whereof, is and hath been intirely under the Juſtices of the Peace, and a Regulation thereof might be expected, before their Juriſdiction is further inlarged, eſpecially when it tends to the invading a Property many Hundred Years ſo quietly enjoyed, by the Burgeſs-Court of *Weſtminſter*.

IV. That at a Petty Seſſions lately held for One Pariſh of the City and Liberty of *Weſtminſter*, it was given in Charge to the Petty Conſtables, to preſent to the Quarterly Seſſions, *Omnia Benè*. And accordingly, They did ſo, notwithſtanding the Oaths they had taken, to make a Juſt and True Preſentment; But upon the Grand Jury's Examining why they made ſuch Return, they confeſſed, that there were ſeveral Nuiſances, and that they made ſuch Return by the Direction of the Juſtices of the Peace, at the Petty Seſſions, upon which they immediately altered their Return, and preſented many Nuiſances. But how far this may tend to the Introduction of Perjury, the Diſregard of Oaths, and Incouragement of Immorality and Vice, is ſubmitted to Conſideration; But this Practice is ſufficient for the Inhabitants to dread the Conſequence of the Authority propoſed to be given by the above-mentioned Clauſes, eſpecially when ſuch an Inſtance of their Juſtice has ſo lately been given.

V. That by the above propoſed Law, the innocent Inhabitants are liable to bear the Expence of Officers, to inform of the Neglects of the Guilty, which they alone ought to Pay: And 'tis to obſerved, that moſt of theſe ſad Pavements are at the Doors of thoſe who are not liable to Diſtreſs.

VI. That the Power to mend their own Doors, after repairing the Pipes, may be a Prejudice to the Proprietors of the Water-works, which will occaſion them to raiſe their Water Rents, and embroil the Inhabitants in Suits.

VII. That the putting in Execution the Penalties in the former *Act*, to Redreſs thoſe Grievances, is ſufficient, without any new Ones; And if any Thing is neceſſary to be added to this *Act*, it is humbly propoſed, That a Clauſe be inſerted to reſerve the Juriſdiction of the Burgeſs Court of *Weſtminſter*, in ſuch Manner as this *Honourable Houſe* ſhall think Reaſonable.

THE

CASE

OF THE

Inhabitants of WESTMINSTER,

Againſt

The Clauſes offered to be added to the Quarentine Bill, *in reſpect to the Pavements, and Cleaning the Streets in* Weſtminſter.

THE CASE OF THE Levant COMPANY,

In Relation to

The BILL now depending before this *Honourable Houſe*, for performing *Quarentine.*

I. *THE* BILL *not only obliges all Ships and Veſſels coming from Places Infected, to perform* Quarentine, *but alſo from ſuch Places where the Inhabitants are known to Traffick or Correſpond with Places ſo Infected.*

The *Grand Signior*'s Dominions are of ſo great Extent, that the Plague may be there in one Place, and not in another: And as the Bill now ſtands, it obliges all Ships coming from *Turkey*, to perform Quarentine, tho' they come from Places not Infected, which State of Health may be certified by the Ambaſſador or Conſuls of ſuch Places from whence any Ship or Veſſel ſhall take in her Lading: And it is humbly hoped, that ſuch Certificates may be allowed as ſufficient to prevent any Quarentine after ſo long a Voyage.

II. *The* BILL *directs the Opening and Airing of Goods after* Quarentine *performed, in Sheds, Tents, and other Places.*

The Company often Import at One Time upwards of Two Thouſand Bales of Raw Silk, 2500 Sacks of Mohair Yarn, beſides Drugs, Cottons, and other Goods; The Opening of ſuch Silk and Mohair Yarn will much damnify the ſame, and render the Difficulty of working it ſo great, that it would be only Vendible at the Low Rates of Damaged Goods; and ſeveral ſorts of Drugs will, by the Air and Duſt getting into them, be utterly ſpoiled: Silk, Mohair, Yarn, and Drugs, being of great Value, if not ſecured in good and ſafe Warehouſes, to be depoſited whilſt under *Quarentine*, they will be ſo lyable to Damage and Pilfering, that it may tend to the Ruin of the Importer. And as theſe Goods are the Returns of the Woollen Manufactures, and other the Products of this Kingdom, it will very much leſſen their Exports, if the Merchants, by their Imports, are liable to ſuch Hardſhips.

III. *The* BILL *makes no Proviſion by whom the Charges of* Quarentine *ſhall be paid.*

Our Goods already pay great Cuſtoms, and it would be a great Diſcouragement to Trade, ſhould the Merchant be obliged to pay the Charges of *Quarentine.*

As Tonnage and Poundage were at firſt granted for the Security and Safety of Trade, ſo, it is hoped, the Charges that the Merchant ſhall be put to in performing *Quarentine*, ſhall be allowed and paid by the Collector of the Cuſtoms.

IV. *The*

IV. *The* **BILL** *ſeems to intimate, That Ships and Goods coming from Places Infected, may be deſtroyed.*

There is no Proviſion how the Proprietors ſhall be paid for the ſame, which will be a great Diſcouragement to the Trade and Navigation of this Kingdom: It is, therefore, humbly hoped, as the Ships and Cargoes are ordered (as is preſumed) to be deſtroyed for the Safety of the whole Kingdom, ſo the Proprietors may be allowed the Coſt of the Ships and their Cargoes ſo deſtroyed, out of the Cuſtoms.

If Care be not taken to prevent the Merchants Traders of this Kingdom ſuffering great Charges and Damages on their Goods, by the Methods that ſhall be taken for performing *Quarentine*, that then they will be ſo diſcouraged from Trading, that the Miſeries of the poor Manufacturers, for want of Imploy, may be more fatal to this Kingdom, than any ill Conſequences from Importation of Goods from *Turkey*.

N. B. It is humbly hoped, That for the better putting in Execution the Rules and Orders, which ſhall be made for performing *Quarentine* by Virtue of the intended Act, That the ſaid Rules, Orders and Penalties may be Printed and Deliver'd without any Fee or Reward, to the Commander of every Ship or Veſſel, at her firſt Arrival, which ſhall be obliged to perform a *Quarentine*.

All which is humbly ſubmitted, &c.

THE

CASE

OF THE

Levant Compan

In Relation to the BIL
now depending before t
Honourable Houſe for I
forming *Quarentine*.

816. m. 13.
95

THE CASE OF THE Rope-makers of *London*,

And other Ports in the Kingdom of *England*.

FOREIGN Cordage and Yarn Imported, pays a Duty of 5 *s.* and 8 *d. per Cent.* But upon Exportation draws back 5 *s.* and 4 *d.*

For carrying on the late War, the Duty on Hemp Imported was advanced from 8 *d. per Cent.* to 2 *s. per Cent.*

All Cordage made in *England* pays (upon Exportation) 6 *d. per Cent.*

So that the Duty upon Hemp Included, *Engliſh* Cordage (upon Exportation) pays 2 *s.* and 2 *d. per Cent.* more than Foreign Cordage. By Reaſon whereof, *New England*, and other of his Majeſties Plantations, are ſupplyed with Foreign Cordage, ſo much Cheaper than that made in *England* can be afforded.

Again, During the late War, abundance of Journey-men and Apprentices being Impreſt into His Majeſties Service, Maſters (to ſupply their places) were forc'd to let many Young Men into their Trade.

By Reaſon whereof, and Maſters not being now able to find Vent for their Cordage, are forced to turn off their Journeymen; who, for want of Work, are reduced to extream Poverty; and many of their Wives and Children forc'd to take Almes of the Pariſh.

Wherefore the Ropemakers Petition, That the Draw-back may be taken off upon all Foreign Yarn and Cordage.

THE CASE OF THE Rope-makers.

816. m. 13. 96

SOME CONSIDERATIONS

Humbly Offer'd to the *House of Commons*, K. England 215

Concerning the BILL entitled, *A Bill for Regulating the Frauds and Abuſes in the* Salt *Duties.*

THE Duties of Salt being Funds of Credit, of which the Parliament is from time to time obliged to make good the Deficiencies, 'tis without doubt of great Importance to the Government, that no Frauds ſhou'd be Committed in the Collection of this Revenue.

That Frauds have been Committed is viſible enough, and that a Bill may be wanting, which ſhall better aſcertain the Duty, provided the ſaid Bill ſhall not,

Firſt, Diſcourage the ſeveral Refiners erected, and to be erected, whereby the Manufacture of Salt is Increaſed, and the Price thereof ſo leſſened, as that the Commodity itſelf may not only be afforded cheaper at home, but alſo ſtand in Competition in Forreign Markets with the Salt of other Nations.

Secondly, That it may not prejudice the Fiſhing Trade, which is apparently increaſed ſince the draw-backs of the Salt Duty have been allowed for Fiſh Exported.

Thirdly, That the ſaid Bill may not hinder the Exportation of *Engliſh* Home-made Salt, which is a Trade newly gained to *England*, and which may be extended to ſuch a degree, as in the Progreſs of a few Years ſhall greatly Contribute to enrich this Kingdom.

Firſt, The Bill, Fol. 24 Reſtrains the ſetting up any more Refineries of Rock Salt than are at preſent except ſuch as may be erected within Miles of the Rock-Pits.

The Reſtraining the Refineries, will be a prejudice to the Publick, in as much as it muſt hinder the Progreſs of that Manufacture, which is eſteemed the beſt Salt; Refined Salt being Whiter and Freer from Droſs than other Salt. *Note*, that the *Dutch*, who are the beſt Judges of Salt, and Fiſhery, encourage Refineries, and have by ſeveral Laws ſtrictly enjoyned the uſe of Refined Salt, in preſerving their beſt ſort of Herrings.

The more Refineries are allowed, the more Coal are conſumed, which Pay 5 *s* per Chald.; and therefore in this Reſpect, the ſaid Refineries do more increaſe the Publick Revenue in general, than an additional Charge of Officers can prejudice the ſame.

Secondly, The Bill, Fol. 54 Sets forth, *That the allowances given upon the Exportation of Codd-Fiſh, Ling and Hake, do much exceed the Duty of the Salt uſually employed in curing the ſame; ſo that many for the ſake of the ſaid Allowance, only do Export ſuch Fiſh, not duly cured, and Fiſh of very ſmall ſize; which is a prejudice to His Majeſties Revenue, and Diſparagment to the Trade of* Engliſh *Fiſh.*

This Suggeſtion muſt certainly not be right, for the Merchant wou'd not long find his Account in Exporting a bad Commodity. The Allowance of 50 *s* per Hundred for Codd, Ling, and Hake Exported, may perhaps ſomewhat exceed the Salt really uſed in Curing the ſaid Fiſh. But the advantages to *England* by the Fiſhing Trade are of ſuch moment that ſcarce any Expence can be too great to ſecure it to this Kingdom; ſo that ſuppoſing the Fact to be true, that the Allowance on Codd, *&c.* Exported ſhou'd be more than the Duty amounts to, for the Salt, which Cures them; yet that allowance is ſo far from being a Miſchief or Grievance, that poſſibly a wiſer and better Expedient can't be found out for gaining, and ſecuring to us the Fiſhing Trade: For which reaſon, it can't be adviſable to leſſen the foreſaid allowance, eſpecially in Codd-fiſh; becauſe for a long time, there hath been a great demand for dryed Codd in Forreign Parts, which will be ſupplyed from that Country that can ſerve them Cheapeſt.

Heretofore we ſerved the Market with Codd, caught and cured at *Newfoundland*, but of late the *French* and *New-Englanders* have come into a great ſhare of that Trade, by being able to underſelf us; The Firſt by having got a Footing in *Newfoundland*, and the more Frugal Diet, and low Wages of their Sea-men; and the Latter by their Fiſhing on their own Coaſts; without ſuch Long and Expenſive Voyages, as we make to *Newfoundland*. But this large Allowance of the Draw-back of the Salt Duty, is in the Nature of Bounty Mony, which prompts us to Fiſh for Codd on our own Coaſts, and Engages us to cure them with Salt of our own making, and will enable us, if the ſaid Encouragement be continued to ſell this Commodity at Forreign Markets, cheaper than either the *French*, or the People of *New-England* can afford; therefore this allowance ſhou'd by no means be diſcontinued, ſince in all probability it may prove our beſt and moſt effectual way to beat the *French* out of their *Newfoundland* Trade, by which they breed up the greateſt Number of their Seamen.

Beſides all the Mony which our *Engliſh* Codd-Fiſh, Ling and Hake, ſells for, in Forreign Markets, is ſo much clear gain to the Body of the Kingdom, notwithſtanding all the extraordinary Allowances given out of the Duties on Salt.

The Fiſhing for Codd, Ling, and Hake, on the Coaſts of *England*, will be a greater Improvement, becauſe the Fiſhermen and Seamen will be bred, and conſtantly Employed on our own Coaſts, and ſo be ready for our Defence againſt any Invaſions or Surprize, and cauſe a much greater Conſumption of Engliſh Salt, in curing the Fiſh, and other the Produce and Manufactures of *England*, by their conſtant Reſidence at home, than is done or can be expected in the uſual Courſe of the *Newfoundland* Fiſhery.

The Bill farther ſaith, Fol. 59. *That no Allowance ſhall be paid for any Fiſh exported, that ſhall not be well Cured and Merchantable*, but makes not Proviſion who ſhall be Judges in this Matter.

If the Proof of *Engliſh* Fiſh, being Good and Merchantable, ſhou'd be left to the Judgment and Diſcretion of the Exciſe Officers, as ſeems intended by the Bill, it may render the Fiſhery on our own Coaſts ſo Uncertain and Precarious, as may very much Diſcourage and Impair the ſame, and give too much room for partial and indirect Practices. However it may be highly adviſable that ſome better Methods ſhould be taken than are obſerved at preſent, to View and Examine all Fiſh to be Exported, and to ſee that they be well Cured and Merchantable before they are permitted to be ſent abroad.

Thirdly, The Bill, Fol. 27. Enacts, *That no Debenture ſhall be granted upon account of Salt Exported to* Ireland, *until the Exporter thereof ſhall produce a Certificate from the Collector of the Cuſtoms, where ſuch Salt ſhall be Landed, of the particular quantity by weight ſo Landed; nor any draw-back ſhall be allowed for any greater quantity by weight than is there Landed.*

And that no Debenture ſhall be granted for any Salt Exported to other Forreign Parts; until the Maſter ſhall return with his Veſſel to England, *and make Oath of the quantity by ſuch Veſſel carried and left in ſuch Forreign Parts; nor any draw-back allowed for any greater quantity by weight than is left in ſuch Forreign Parts.*

To all which Part of the Bill, material Objections may be juſtly made.

The laying ſuch Hardſhip on the Exportation of *Engliſh* Salt to *Ireland* and other Foreign Parts, will not duly prevent the Frauds in Exporting; but will effectually diſcourage and diſable the fair Trader and Exporter of *Engliſh* Salt, from ſupplying *Ireland* and other Foreign Parts therewith.

The Fraud intended by this Clauſe to be prevented, is the Clandeſting Relanding of Salt after it hath obtained a draw-back upon Exportation: Which is no ways to be hindred, but by Placing expert and diligent Officers in thoſe Ports and Places in *England* and *Wales*, where any Salt hath been known to have been ſo Relanded, or are moſt liable to Suſpicion, which may be done in this as well as in other Branches of the Publick Revenues; where the Duties are higher, and the Commodities are not ſo bulky.

And there is the greater Reaſon for ſetling ſuch Officers in proper Stations to hinder the Relanding of *Engliſh* Salt, inaſmuch as the Neceſſity of taking effectual Care to prevent the private Importing and Landing of Foreign Salt, requires ſome ſuch ſtrict Method, without which the whole Salt-Duty wou'd be very Precarious. And if the private Landing of Foreign Salt be effectually prevented, as ſure it may be as well as other Goods, when the ſame Methods are purſued, conſequently an effectual Stop may be put to the Relanding of *Engliſh* Salt.

As the Bill runs, he that Exports 1800 Buſh. of Salt to *Ireland*, ſuppoſing him to be 3 Months time out of his Mony, and being a waſting Commodity, it may loſe one twentieth Part in the weight; then his accompt will ſtand thus, *viz.*

Exporter —— Debtor.	*l.*	*s.*	*d.*	*Per Contra* —— Creditor.	*l.*	*s.*	*d.*
To Prime Coſt of 1800 Buſhels of Salt, on Board at *Frodſham*, at 6 *d.* *per* Buſhel, Abſtract from the Duty —— —— ——	45	00	00	By the Price, ſaid 1800 Buſhels ſells for in *Ireland*, clear of Fraught and all Charges there, at 7*d.* *per* Buſhel —— ——	52	10	00
To Loſs in the Duty, by waſt of one Twentieth Part of the Salt ——	15	00	00	By Loſs to the Exporter, in Waſt and Damage by the Duty, *&c.* if this Hardſhip be laid on the Exportation —— —— ——	09	15	00
To Loſs in Prime Coſt by waſt, one Twentieth Part of the Salt ——	02	05	00				
To Intereſt in being out of Money, uncertain. —— ——	00	00	00				
	62	05	00		62	05	00

Sometimes it may happen, that Salt doth not waſt ſo much in ſhort Voyages, but allowing for Accidents of Ships Leaking, and long Voyages, this may be reckon'd a very moderate Computation.

By which Calculation it plainly appears, that the Hardſhip which this Bill lays upon the Trader in *Engliſh* Salt, will utterly diſcourage, and in time ſuppreſs the Exportation thereof; becauſe Salt from *France*, *Portugal* and *Spain*, may then be afforded at a much cheaper rate in *Ireland*, *Holland*, and other Parts; which places *England* might be capable of ſupplying with the ſaid Commodity, in caſe the Refiners and Exporters meet with due Encouragement.

This Trade of Exporting Salt, is as yet but in its Infancy; before the War we ſent little of it into Foreign Parts, but on the contrary, were furniſhed from thence for our own uſe. But Neceſſity (upon the Prohibition of *French* Salt) put us upon improving this Manufacture.

The Rock Salt hath been lately diſcover'd, and we are grown to great Perfection in Refining both the Rock and Brine Salt, inſomuch that *England* is able to ſupply the Northern Parts of *Europe* with Salt proper for all ſorts of uſes, in caſe of a Breach with *France*, *Spain*, and *Portugal*.

Our Exportation of this Commodity for the two laſt years, may be computed at 2000 Tun *per Annum*, which, with the prime Coſt and Fraught, may be 35000 *l.* a year clear Profit to this Kingdom.

Upon the whole Matter, it is humbly ſubmitted to the Conſideration of the Parliament, Whether it be adviſable, for the ſake of a ſmall Revenue (which may be fully ſecured and aſcertained by the diligence of Officers) to cramp by ſevere Laws, Penalties, and Reſtrictions, ſo flouriſhing a Branch of the Trade of *England*, as the Manufacture of Salt may be brought to be, if it's not cruſhed in its beginning.

SOME
CONSIDERATIONS
Concerning the BILL entitled,

A Bill for Regulating the Frauds and Abuſes in the **Salt** *Duties*

AN EXPEDIENT,

Which with an Eaſier Burden to the Subject may raiſe an Equivalent to the Salt-Duty, *if that be laid aſide.*

THAT every Man, Woman, and Child, pay Four Pence *per An.*

If there be Eight Millions of People in *England*, this will amount to One Hundred Thirty Three Thouſand, Three Hundred Thirty Three Pounds and a Noble, which is more then the Salt Duty brings at preſent.

I. *Object.* A *Poll Tax* is accounted to lie very hard on Poor People.

Anſ. The Salt lies much harder on them, they feeding much on Bacon. There are I believe very few People, who pay leſs then Eighteen Pence *per An.* for the Salt they eat, more then they were *wont* to do before this Duty.

II. *Object.* If a Groat *per An. per* Head, afford 133333*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* then Four Shillings *per* Head *per An.* will conſequently afford Sixteen Hundred Thouſand Pounds, and at this Rate the *Poll-Tax*, at Four Shillings *per* Head would amount thereto.

Anſ. In the *Poll-Tax*, Poor People who receive Alms, and the Children of Day Labourers, *&c.* are excepted.

III. *Object.* It can't be expected ſuch as receive Alms of the Pariſh, *&c.* ſhould pay the Four Pence *per* Head.

Anſ. The Pariſh may pay for them, 'Twill be eaſier to the Pariſh to pay Four Pence *per* Head for their Poor, then to make the Poor pay ſo dear for their Salt; indeed the Burden of this lies chiefly on thoſe who maintain the Poor; ſuch as can't keep themſelves are ſupported by the Pariſh, and the Pariſh had better pay a Groat *per* Head, then a Shilling *per* Head, which at leaſt they do for the moſt part, now Salt is ſo dear.

IV. *Object.* How can it be ordered ſo as that every body pay a Groat?

Anſw. By ordering every Pariſh to give in an Alphabetical Liſt of all its Inhabitants, this being Printed, and expoſed to publick View, by poſting it up in its reſpective Pariſh, and in ſome Neighbouring Pariſhes, in the moſt convenient Places of reſort in the ſaid Pariſhes, 'twill eaſily appear who are Taxed and who are not; and in Caſe a Penalty be, That every one who is not Taxed within the Year, pay Treble what he ought to pay, one half to the Informer, the other half to the Queen, but few if any are like to eſcape Taxing.

As this will eaſe the Country, ſo likewiſe will it at once remedy all the Inconveniencies accompanying the *Salt-Duty*, and be *a great help to Trade in many Reſpects.*

That a Tax on *Candles* at Two Pence *per* Pound, may raiſe half a Million Sterling *per An.* 'Tis ſuppoſed that in *England* are killed yearly upwards of Two Millions of Neats, ſome whereof afford the Tallow-Chandler about Eight or Nine Stone of Tallow, and ſome about Two Stone; but ſuppoſing that one with another, they afford Four Stone each, altogether will amount to Eight Millions of Stones. The Sheep killed may afford at leaſt one Fourth of what the Neats yield; for altho a dozen Sheep afford not ſo much Tallow as one Neat, yet they much exceeding in Number, may afford as above ſaid, altogether about Ten Millions of Stones to the Tallow-Chandler. This at Two Pence *per* Pound, will amount to near Seven Hundred Thouſand Pounds Sterling.

An Expedient propoſed how this may be raiſed without extravagant Charge to the Publick.

That ſome Towns in each County be appointed whereto every one who makes Candles, ſhall be obliged Firſt to bring, weigh, and enter his Tallow before he uſe it, he to be allowed Two Pence *per* Stone for his trouble of bringing it upwards of Six Miles, and a Penny *per* Stone for all he brings leſs then Six Miles. This will eat out about three half Pence *per* Stone, and not much more, if it be ſo laid out, as that none be obliged to carry his Tallow above Twelve Miles to be entred.

That Two Pence *per* Stone Drawback, be allowed to every Tallow-Chandler for Prompt Payment, in Caſe he pay his Duty at the weighing of his Tallow, ſo this will bring down the Exciſe in clear Money to about Twelve-Pence *per* Stone, which amounts in the whole at this Rate to about Five Hundred Thouſand Pounds. Every one being obliged to carry his Tallow to the Place appointed, and there to enter and pay for it, 'twill require little or no charge to collect it.

If a Penalty be laid on ſuch as tranſgreſs in Non-Entry of what they uſe, of paying about Four-fold for what they ſo uſe for the Firſt Offence, double as much for the Second Offence, and for the Third Offence, to be incapacitated from making and vending Candles, this may in great meaſure prevent and perhaps remedy all or moſt Frauds.

I ſuppoſe few will grutch giving Two Pence *per* Pound extraordinary for their Candles, if they thought 'twould raiſe Five Hundred Thouſand Pounds *per An.* to the Publick.

Six Pence *per* Pound may be laid on Wax-Candles, not becauſe 'tis like to raiſe much Money, but if nothing be laid on that ſort of Candles, when Tallow-Candles are about Eight Pence *per* Pound, People will be apt to uſe Wax-Candles, unleſs a Duty be laid on them.

None of theſe Expedients will waſt much Money on Exciſe Officers, who are the Bane of moſt Taxes. Indeed about one Eight part that will ariſe from the Tallow, which is for carrying to and fro, is a Charge to the Country; Howbeit 'tis dilated and expended in the Country, and does not extend any thing near to the Charge expended in Collecting other Exciſes.

AN EXPEDIENT,

How to Remedy the Inconveniencies of the *Salt-Duty*, and how to raiſe 500000*l. per An.* from Candles.

816. m. 13.

An Account of Rock-Salt from the 25th of Decemb. 1699, to the 25th of Decemb. 1700.

	Buſhels			*l.*	*s.*	*d.*
Rock Entred and Delivered in *Cheſhire* —— which Duty was paid 3 *s.* 4 *d. per Buſhel*, at 75 *l.* each Buſhel, or ſecured *by Bond* at nine Months.	246142	——	Duty	41023	13	04
	Buſh.			*l.*	*s.*	*d.*
Rock Exported, part of the Sum above, which Duty was all drawn back and diſcharged by ſo much of the firſt Bonds given for the Rock.	19053	——	Duty	3175	10	00
	Buſh.	*Gall.*		*l.*	*s.*	*d.*
Rock Melted and Refined at the Works in *England* and *Wales*. ————————	208641	7	Duty	34773	12	11
Which Duty was diſcharged by the Draw-back allowed, and ſatisfied by ſo many of the firſt Bonds given for the Rock.						
And the Salt made from the Produce of the Rock melted, was ſubject to the ſame Laws and Duties of Salt made from Brine.						
	Buſh.	*Gall.*		*l.*	*s.*	*d.*
Rock Reſt as Ballance at the Works,— for which the Bonds are out and will be diſcharged if the Rock ſhall be melted, by the Draw-back, otherwiſe muſt be paid.	18447	1	Duty	3074	10	05
	246142			41023	13	04

This is the Account of Rock, (*viz.* all that appears) if more was uſed this Year, it neither paid nor ſecured any Duty.

Hence appear ſome Inconveniencies and Uncertainties to the Revenue.

Firſt, If Rock be uſed *in Specie*, there is 19 *l.* allow'd in each Buſhel.

Secondly, That Allowance is to the Refiner, which (if melted in Sea-water) produceth a much greater Quantity.

Thirdly, The whole Charge allow'd for Officers is loſt, as is plain by ſhewing, that whatſoever Duty was paid from Salt refined, would have been paid from Brine Salt; we never uſe more or leſs than there is occaſion for, therefore whatever is paid for the one is rebated for the other.

'Tis demonſtrable that 56 *l.* Rock melted in freſh Water makes 56 *l.* of Salt, but 75 *l.* is allow'd the Refiner as Parr with 56 *l.* to the Maker from Brine: Therefore the Account of laſt Years Refining compared with Brine ſtands thus, for 70788 Buſhel, which the 19 *l.* over made more, the Revenue was leſſened 11798 *l.* beſides the Charge of Officers.

It is to be known what the 12 *d. per* Buſhel (paid before the uſe of the Rock Salt) amounted unto, and would give light into this Secret.

What is exported of it, hinders the Manufactory of ſo much Salt at leaſt, if not double. But if not permitted to be dugg'd, no Frauds could be made.

The CASE *of the* Salt-Manufacturers *from Brine-Springs and Sea-Brine, Humbly offered to the Honourable the Houſe of* COMMONS.

THE Duty laid upon Salt made from Salt-Rock and from Brine Springs, being not at a Parr, nor the Advantages in Draw-backs, Bonds, and Payments alike; the Manufacturers of the one are extream Sufferers, and the Refiners of the other moſt Sharers of the Salt Trade, to the manifeſt Loſs to the Revenue; the Salt from Brine-Springs being much more ſeverely charged with the Duty.

The Revenue is under great Diſadvantages from Salt-Rock by reaſon the ſame is refined in ſmall quantities in all parts of the Kingdom, and for the moſt part in places remote from the Officers, and in many Inſtances contiguous to Navigable Rivers (by which every Creek is made a Port) for the Conveniency of running of the Salt before the Officers ſee it; ſo that due Attendance cannot be given by the Officers on ſuch Refining-Works, without a greater Expence than the Duty thereby ariſing amounts to; and by reaſon of the Advantages before mentioned: It's natural to believe, that Refining-Houſes will be ſet in moſt Towns in the Kingdom, which will cauſe an Expence of Officers to attend ſuch Works that will amount to more than the whole Duty on Rock-Salt, if not ſpeedily prevented.

And if the Salt-Rock is allow'd to be carried about the Kingdom, and refined in ſo many places, it will teach the Proprietors of Brine totally to leave off making it into Salt at the Pits, but to ſell it in kind, and carry it all over the Countries; by which Method every private Family will learn to make their own Salt at a very ſmall Expence; for the Brine is not, nor can be made chargeable with the Duty (by reaſon it differs ſo much in Strength and Goodneſs,) nor is Salt made from Brine chargeable till ſold, and if it were, yet what's made in private Families will not be eaſily diſcover'd, ſo the Duty will be totally loſt: Whereas if both the Rock and the Brine were confined to be made into Salt at the Pits, a very few Officers would ſerve to attend many Works, which would prevent very many Frauds now practiſed, and make the Duty on Salt to be collected with very little Expence upon Officers.

Nor is Rock, *in Specie*, without ſuch Proviſion to be prevented being run from the Pits in the Night, where are great ſtores under-ground to be drawn up, and no cover to ſecure the ſame.

Theſe Diſcouragements and Diſadvantages upon the Makers of Salt from Brine hath already deſtroyed the Salt made from the ſame, whereby ſo many Families, and thouſands of poor People have for many Ages been maintained, but are now reduced to Poverty, and without ſpeedy Remedy muſt become a Charge to the Publick.

For which Remedy it's propos'd, That both the Rock and the Brine from the Springs may be refined, and made into Salt at the Pits only, which would leſſen the great Expence of Officers, and be very beneficial to the Revenue, and prevent the fraudulent running of Salt.

And for redreſſing other Inconveniencies relating to the Salt-Trade and Duty, it's propos'd, That Salt-Stealers may be ſubject to Fines and Corporal Puniſhments, and not the Proprietors finable for their ſake, when not privy to ſuch Fact.

That fixed times of Entry may be appointed whereby the Duty may be made eaſy to all, and the Officers not burthenſome.

It would alſo be a great eaſe to the Makers of Salt, if good Security were to be taken from the Merchant for not re-landing Salt exported for Parts beyond the Seas, as alſo in every Caſe for the Duty; and this would better ſecure the Revenue, the Makers of Salt being often only Farmers of Salt-Works, and of no Subſtance.

Theſe Conſiderations are humbly laid before this Honourable Houſe, with the humble Petitions of the poor Perſons and others that are concerned in the Manufacturing of Brine-Salt, and Sea-water-Salt; who humbly hope the Wiſdom of this Houſe will find out ſome Methods for their Relief and Encouragement of the ancient Manufacture.

THE CASE OF THE SALT-MANUFACTURERS.

TO THE HONOURABLE

House of Commons.

The most Humble Petition of James Alexander de Soulies.

Most Humbly sheweth,

THAT by the Insight your Petitioner has had in the *Salt-Pits* of the Island of *Guernzey*, in which he was Born, and the Observations he has made in the Island of *Minorca*, in which he has faithfully serv'd above three Years, as Inspector of the Fortifications of *Port-Mahon*: He infers, that at a small Expence, such a Quantity of *Bay-Salt* might be made in the said Island of *Minorca*, as would, with great Conveniency, Load Yearly Hundreds of Ships, which he humbly presumes to Explain, as follows;

YOUR Petitioner has observ'd by putting Sea-Water into Holes, in *Minorca*, that the Climate and Ground of that Island, makes very good *Salt* in Four and twenty Hours Time, and that there are several Places about it, Naturally so Convenient, that *Salt-Pits* might be made at a very small Expence, along the Harbours of *Mahon*, *Fornells*, and several other Places, Convenient for Ships to come in and Load upon the Spot, which Conveniency would cause the Ships to come there for *Salt*, rather than go for it to *Majorca* or *Ivica*, where Hundreds of Ships, (from several Parts,) go Yearly with Risk of being taken by the *Barbary-Privateers*, either going in or coming out, for they would not only Load quicker and more safe from the Weather in the Harbours of *Minorca*, than in those other Islands, but also would be more safe from those Infidels upon the Coast, we being generally at Peace with them, and our Men of War being continually going in or out, or a Cruising.

Wherefore, as in your Petitioners humble Opinion, a *Salt-Pit* might be made for a Trial, at the Harbour of *Fornells* in *Minorca*, where there is a Place, already so fit for it, that it would Cost but little to perfect it. He humbly thinks it worth while to Undertake it, for, if it Answers, (as he is sure and can give Proof it will) *Salt-Pits* may be made at every Convenient Place for Ships to come Close to, even upon high Ground, in which the Water may at all times be Convey'd by Engines, of a New Invention, and of a small Expence, (one of which will Convey sixty Tun of Water in an Hours Time,) which will save the Expence of a Reservatory, there being no Ebbing nor Flowing in the *Mediteranean*.

YOUR Petitioner begs leave to observe, That several *French Protestant Salt Makers*, now in *London*, and some in *France*, would be glad to be employ'd there; That the Ground of that Island is a sort of very soft Stone, which is very easy to Cut; and that what should be cut in making the *Salt-Pits*, might be made Use of for the Fortifications, and for Building of Houses; from whence he Infers, that at a small Expence, the *Salt-Pits* might be made; and, when made, the whole Charge of the *Salt* would be so very small, considering the Costs they are at in the other Islands, for the Duties and the Carriage, for want of good Harbours and Conveniency of Loading, that the Charge of making the *Salt-Pits* and the *Salt* might be quickly Reimbursed out of the Income of it, and yet it might be Sold Cheaper than in those other Islands, if it should be Requisite to Encourage Ships to come for it.

YOUR Petitioner being able and ready, at any time to give this HONOURABLE HOUSE or COMMITTEE, Undeniable Proofs of what he has only here Represented; humbly hopes this HONOURABLE HOUSE will from thence infer with him, a Multiplicity of Advantages, that would Acrue by the great Number of Ships that would come to *Minorca*, for *Salt*, with Provisions and Money from several Parts; besides those that would take in *Salt*, even for Ballast, rather than Load and Unload Stones or Sand for Ballast, which turns to no Account; therefore your Petitioner humbly presumes to mention, only the few following.

THE most Part, or all the Garrison, would be maintain'd by the Income of it: It would make Provisions Plenty, it would inrich the Island, and make its Trade Flourish; so that *English-Men* and Foreigners, would be so fond of settling in it, that by allowing it only to *Protestants*, the whole Island would soon be so Inhabited by them as to keep in Awe the Natives; who would soon be so weary of it, that, for the very sake of going away they would sell their Houses and Estates to those *Protestants*, who would improve the Land better, and would be so hearty in the Defence of the Island, that fewer Regular Forces would be required in it.

AS others would be Discouraged from proposing New Advantages in other Cases, if your Petitioner should be supplanted, by those who may have better Interest; he humbly prays and hopes, from Your unshaken Zeal to his Majesty and your Country, to have the Direction of that Undertaking, being the First inventor and Proposer of so great an Advantage to the Nation in General, and the Island of Minorca *in Particular, your Petitioner Relying entirely on the Honour and Justice of the* KING *and* PARLIAMENT.

THE

Moſt Humble Petition of

James Alex^r de Soulies.

Shewing how moſt Part, or all the Garriſon of the Iſland of *Minorca* may be maintain'd, without any Charge to the Nation; and, at the ſame Time, the Iſland enrich'd, Proviſions made Plenty, and Trade Flouriſhing in it.

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TO THE HONOURABLE

House of Commons.

The Humble Petition of JAMES ALEXANDER de SOULIES.

Most Humbly Sheweth,

THAT by the Insight your Petitioner has had in the SALT-PITS of the Island of *Guernzey*, in which he was born, and the Observations he has made in the Island of *Minorca*, in which he serv'd above Three Years as Inspector of the Fortifications of *Port Mahon*; he infers, That at a Small Expence, such a Quantity of BAY-SALT might be made in the said Island of MINORCA, as would, with great Conveniency, Load Yearly Hundreds of Ships; which he humbly presumes to explain as follows:

YOUR Petitioner has observ'd that the Climate and Ground of the Island of *Minorca* makes very Good *Salt* in Four and Twenty Hours time, the poor People gathering it in the Cliffs of the Rocks, in which it makes it self almost Eight Months in the Year: That *Salt* made on purpose, with a proper Quantity of Water, in Pits prepar'd for it, would be Longer, Better and Quicker made in the said Island, in which there are several Places naturally so convenient, that *Salt-Pits* might be made at a very small expence, along the Harbours of *Mahon*, *Fornells*, and several other Places, convenient for Ships to Come in and Load upon the spot, which Conveniency would cause the Ships to come there for *Salt*, rather than go for it to *Majorca* or *Ivica*, where Hundreds of Ships go Yearly from several Parts; those from *Italy* with Risk of being taken by the *Barbary* Privateers, who are always at War with the *Italians* and *Spaniards*; for they would not only Load Quicker and more Safe from the Weather, in the Harbours of *Minorca*, than in those other Islands, but also would be more safe from those Infidels upon the Coast, we being generally at Peace with them, and our Men of War being continually going in or out, or a cruising.

WHEREFORE, as, in your Petitioner's humble Opinion, a *Salt-Pit* might be made for a Trial at the Harbour of *Fornells* in *Minorca*, where there is so large a Place, that *Salt* might be made in it to Load Yearly a great many Ships; which Place is already so fit for it, that it would cost but little to perfect it, and to make another Experiment upon High Ground; he humbly thinks it worth while to undertake it; for if it answers (as he is sure and can give proof it will) *Salt-Pits* may be made at every convenient Place for Ships to come close to, even upon High Ground, in which the Water may at all times be convey'd by Engines, of a new Invention, and of a Small Expence (one of which will convey Sixty Tun of Water in an Hour's time) which will save the Expence of a Reservatory, there being no Ebbing nor Flowing in the *Mediterranean*.

YOUR Petitioner begs leave to observe, That several *French Protestant Salt-makers* now in *London*, and some in *France*, would be glad to be employ'd there; That the Ground of that Island is a sort of very soft Stone, which is very easy to cut; and, That what should be cut in making the *Salt-Pits*, might be made use of for the Fortifications, and for building of Houses: From whence is to be infer'd, That with Ease, Dispatch, and a Small Expence, *Salt-Pits* might be made, to make *Salt* enough to Load Yearly several Hundreds of Ships, as the Trade shall require; and, when made, the whole Charge of the *Salt* would be so very small, considering the Costs they are at in the other Islands, for the Duties and the Carriage, for want of good Harbours, and Conveniency of loading, that the Charge of making the *Salt-Pits* might be quickly Reimbursed out of the Income of the *Salt*, and yet it might be sold Cheaper than in those other Islands, if it should be requisite to encourage Ships to come for it; the Charge of making it, when once the Pits are prepar'd, being to be accounted as nothing.

YOUR Petitioner humbly hopes This HONOURABLE HOUSE will from thence infer with him a Multiplicity of Advantages, that would accrue by the great Number of Ships that would come to *Minorca* for *Salt*, with Provisions and Money, from several Parts; besides those that would take in *Salt* even for Ballast, rather than load and unload Stones or Sand, which turn to no Account; therefore your Petitioner presumes to mention only the few following.

THE most part or all the Garrison would be Maintained by the Income of it: It would make Provisions Plenty, Enrich the Island, and Promote Trade in it: Besides, several *English* Ships, and others, Trading to the *Mediterranean* (some on purpose, and some in their Way) for want of other Freight, would come there for *Salt*, as well for those Places of the *Mediterranean* where it is wanted, as to go directly to *Newfoundland*, *&c.* rather than go for it out of their Way, to St. *Ubes* or the Isle of *May*.

THE Advantages that are foreseen by the Insight your Petitioner has already given into this Undertaking, in his former Representation, are so Great and so Tempting, that there is great Reason to believe some Persons will use their utmost Endeavours to divert by their Insinuations, This HONOURABLE HOUSE from entring on this Affair, that they may have an Opportunity to turn it to their own private Profit; which he humbly presumes would be no less a Prejudice to the Nation, and a Discouragement to others who might propose new Advantages in other Cases, than an Injury to your Petitioner; who relying on your steddy Adherence to and Pursuit of all that may conduce to the true Interest and Honour of our *KING* and *COUNTRY*, and the Encouragement of the Promoters thereof, humbly hopes This *HONOURABLE HOUSE* will neither let this by any Misrepresentations be disregarded, nor your Petitioner's just Pretensions to the Direction of it defeated; he being the Inventer and first Proposer of so great an Advantage to the Nation; of which he is able and ready to Make Good every Article by undeniable Demonstrations and by the Assertions of all that know the Trade of the MEDITERRANEAN, and the Situation, Climate, Soil, convenient Places and Harbours of the Island of MINORCA, except those who for the sake of their own private Views will Evade it.

AND Your PETITIONER, as in Duty bound, shall ever PRAY, &c.

Humble PETITION of

JAMES ALEXANDER DE SOULIES,

Further EXPLAINING

How moft part, or all the Garrifon of the ISLAND of MINORCA may be maintain'd without any Charge to the Nation; and at the fame Time, the Iſland enrich'd, Proviſions made plenty, and Trade flouriſhing in it.

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REASONS;

Humbly Offered why there ſhould be a Prohibition of the Importation of French Salt, *and Allowance of* Spaniſh *and* Portugal, *Paying the Duty now on it.*

I. THE *French Salt* is more Unprofitable to be Refined, having more Sand, Dirt and Filth then *Spaniſh* and *Portugal.*

II. *French* is generally Imported in *French* Bottoms, which Preventeth the Employ of a great Number of good Ships, and Payeth leſs Duty to the KING.

III. The Generality of People by Ancient Cuſtom, are Wedded to the Uſe of it, ſuppoſing all White Salt to be as inſignificant as that made from Sea-Liquor, having neither ſtrength nor ſubſtance, whereas that made of Brine, and Kern'd to a proper Size, will not only ſave Fiſh or Fleſh better then any other, be it White or Bay, but go further in Uſe, as many ingenious Obſervers will Teſtifie, to which the Reaſons following may Contribute ſome Satisfaction.

1. Becauſe all Salt Kern'd by the Sun is embodied with two Miſchievous Qualities, Dirt and Bittern, which helps make Meaſure to the Buyer, and hath two very Prejudicial Effects; The Dirt is ſo drawn into Fleſh and Split Fiſh, that Waſhing will not get it out but Boyling only, to the great trouble of the Cook to Watch the Scumming, the Boyler, and the Fiſhmonger to pare his Fiſh, to make it appear like *Dutch* Cured; The Bittern vitiates and draws forth the Gravey and Moiſture, ſo as the Vertue of Fiſh or Fleſh ſeems Tranſmuted to Salt and Bittern, making the ſubſtance hard, and in effect miſchievous, cauſing *Scurveys*, *Conſumptions*, and many other diſeaſes in the Bodies of Men, compelled to the frequent Uſe of it; The Bittern doth naturally embodie in the Sun to a ſubſtance like Salt, but will not be embodied by Fire, but is brought to a Spirit that will ſuddenly diſſolve any ſort of Metal, whereas Refined Salt tends not to the deſtruction, but the preſervation of Bodies, ſaving and preſerving, without hardning, ſhrinking or leſsning the quantity of Fleſh, Fiſh, Fruit or Herbs, Experience of which may be Eſteem'd the Reaſon why the *Dutch* by the 28th. Article of their Edict Proclaimed 1632. Prohibited the Uſe of *French Salt*. And by the 30th. Article enjoyned the Uſe of Refined, to ſave the Herrings they call pure Herrings, caught after *St. James*-Tide, *Bartholomew*-Tide, or *Crux*-Tide, whereof Men deſire to Pack, Circle or Burnt, according to the Contract therefore made with them of *Colen*, by which their Fiſh is not only made more acceptable at our Markets beyond the Seas, but here alſo, Fiſhmongers ſelling it at near double the Price our Fiſh Cured with *French* Salt is ſold at; And no better Reaſon can be given why the *Dutch* Marriners return from long Voyages, ſo fat, healthful and freſh coloured, then that their Fleſh and Fiſh is ſaved with Refined Salt.

2. Becauſe made of a Regular Size, there need not be ſo great a Quantity Applied, as of the *French*, more then one third of it, being ſo large that it diſſolves not in proper time, but continues diſſolving until all with it is as ſalt as Salt it ſelf, yet great Remains are found in the Cask, taking up the room of valuable Commodity, to the great diſſatisfaction of the Buyer, and Prejudice to all that ſhall put to Sale Fiſh Cured according to the Rules of Art, Right, Reaſon and Common Honeſty; For the Preventing ſuch Abuſes, the *Dutch* Enjoyn, by the 26th. Article of the aforeſaid Edict, a View of all Salt bought, and a View of all delivered to the Fiſhery and Officers, Payed the firſt time by the Seller, and the ſecond time by the Buyer, and in caſe any deceit be found to have bin done in Cask or Cellars, the Vender thereof to forfeit 200 *Carolus Gilders*; And they have further Enjoyned by the 31th. Article, That no one ſhall receive any White Salt, but by a due Certificate from the Place where the ſame Salt is made, upon Forfeiture of the Salt, and the Ship Maſters Compelled to ſwear, That it is the ſame Salt, not altered, mixed, or to their knowledge diminiſhed, ſince the time they took it into their Veſſels, but that the ſame is left in being, according to the Contents of the Certificate, upon Forfeiture of the Salt, in caſe the Ship-Maſter is Owner thereof; and in caſe not, upon forfeiture of the value thereof, to be Recovered of his Perſon, Ship and Goods; And that he moreover ſhall be Proſecuted for Perjury.

LAWS of the aboveſaid Nature in many Reſpects more Needful in *England.*

1. BEcauſe *there is more ſorts of Salt made in, and Imported into* England *then into* Holland.

2. *Becauſe the moſt uſeful Salt being but of late years made, is known to but few, ſo the Generality ſubject to be abuſed.*

3. *Becauſe by Corrupting an Officer, Salt may be Imported from* Scotland, *under Pretence of ſome Place in* England, *ſo the King defrauded of his Cuſtom.*

4. *Becauſe Ship-Maſters lie under a great temptation to Imbezel, the Laws that Enjoyn the Regulating of Meaſures not being obſerved in ſeveral Corporations and Maritine Townsy but illegal Meaſures maintained, and irregular ways of Meaſuring Practiſed.*

ADVANTAGES that will Enſue to the General Concerns of the Kingdom by encouraging the Manufacture of *SALT.*

I. *IT will Emprove Home-Trade, by Employing great Numbers of People thrown out of other Manufactures, by the decay of them, to be good Conſumptioners of Native Commodity, who muſt otherwiſe ſell themſelves to Plantations, Beg, Steal, or live meanly on the Almes of their Pariſhes.*

II. *Salt made of Brine, Pinching, Piercing and Saving quick, will enable the Barrelling of Fiſh on Ship-board, and ſo encourage the Fiſhing with* Buſſes, *after the* Dutch *manner, by which the Adventurer and induſtrious Labourer will have near double the Profit they have had, having bin Compelled to ſell their Fiſh (to be Cured) to them that have aſſumed a Power to ſet Price, which hath ſo diſcouraged the Generality, That not one third of the Number goes now from the Cinque-Ports, and Limbs of them who firſt laid the Foundation of the Fiſhing-Trade and* Yarmouth, *which decay of Trade hath not only occaſioned impoveriſhment to Maritine Townes, but great loſs and damage to the Countrey Neighbouring, for want of the Mony and Mony-worth, the Fiſher-men made returns of to expend and Trade with them.*

4. *The uſe of Salt made of Brine will much advantage the Trade of making Red-herrings, becauſe it Cures Fiſh in Heape or Pile with much greater Certainty, being ſizeable to diſſolve in time, whereas if the largeſt* French *happen in any part of the Heap or Pile, without ſmall enough with it, to pinch and ſave within time, there is very great damage; The Fiſh proving (after the trouble and charge of* Deeſing) *not valuable, although ſold with the Cured by reaſon of the great Abatement of price, the Rotten and Tainted occaſion, whereas in the uſe of Refined Salt there is no ſuch Caſualty, yet the Fiſh proving abundantly more acceptable, by reaſon of pleaſant Flavour, Plumpneſs and Fatneſs, not fiery hard and dry, as the Bittern in all Salt Kern'd by the Sun Occaſions.*

OBJECTIONS *againſt* Engliſh *Salt for the Curing of* Pilchards, *and the Impoſition propoſed on* French, *with their Anſwers.*

Object. 1. *THat it is not ſo profitable to ſave* Pilchards *as* French.

Anſw. 1. It may be Deemed more profitable, Firſt, becauſe it pinches, pierces and ſaves more quick.

2 Being ſeparated from, and purged of Dirt, Bittern, and other Filth, and made of Regular Size, it may be deemed Cheaper at one ſh. 6 d. the Buſhel, then *French* at one ſh. which being much too large, is uſed in an exceſſive quantity, the greateſt of which being thrown by for ſecond and third uſes, is continually waſting, being once wet with the Bloud of Fiſh.

3. It being a Native Comodity, will be always at a Moderate price, and not in time of War, or foreign Impoſition, advanced to eight or ten ſhillings *per* Buſhel as formerly, of which we ſhall ſuddenly have ſome taſt. The *French* King having lately impoſed on all Salt made in *Brittany*, and Farmed it to ſome that declare they will, in time of Peace, be the ſole Importers by their own Veſſels; they having the power of ſevere Exaction and paying but three pence *per* weigh Advance here; whereas *Engliſh* Veſſels pay fifty *Souce per* Tunn there.

Object. 2. *That* Engliſh *Salt will not harden Fiſh as* French *will.*

Anſw. 1. A ſmall Addition of *Spaniſh* or *Portugal* will Effect that to great advantage, there being not any thing of Dirt or Filth proportionable to that in *French.*

2. The hardening quality being bittern, that runs from Salt imbodied by Fire, may be had at Salt-works without any Allowance but Salvage, it being conveyed by a Current made for that purpoſe into the Sea, and in its paſſage is frequently embodied by the Sun to a ſubſtance like Salt, and may be uſed to harden the *Pilchards* in regard they are ſo ſuddenly taken from Salt and it, that not being diſtilled, hath not power to operate in ſo little time its miſchievous Effects.

Object. 3. *Salt works now Erected being Remote from the* Pilchard-*fiſhing, the freight will make the Commodity dear at the place where* Pilchards *are Cured.*

Anſw. 1. There is no man that hath ſeen a Salt-work, but will grant that Salt may be made upon the Sea-coaſt round *England* and *Wales* one of the three wayes following.

1. Where there is Land gained or to be gained from the Sea, there may Salt be made from Brine raiſed by the Sun.

2. Where there is not Conveniency of Land to make Brine on, Salt may be made from Sea-Liquor, *Spaniſh* or *Portugal* Salt Diſſolved in it, as the *Dutch* do, of whom we have great advantage, they being conſtrained to fetch their Sea-liquor ſome Leagues at Sea to Diſſolve their Salt in, and to prevent refined Salt being ever ſo dear as in *Holland*, Nature hath endowed this Kingdom with Salt-ſprings, from which may be made as good Salt if Kern'd to a ſize, as the *Dutch* make of *Portugal*, yet the uſe and value of the Commodity not being underſtood are Conſtrained to let run from many of their Springs (at ſome times) near nine Tenth's of their Brine.

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REASONS

Humbly offered to Conſideration of the

PARLIAMENT,

For laying a further Duty upon French, Spaniſh, *and other Foreign* SALT, (*except* Scotch Salt, *and what is conſumed upon the Fiſhery of this Kingdom*) *towards the ſupport and encouragement of the Manufacture of* SALT *in this Nation.*

1. THat before *Salt-Pans* were erected in ſeveral parts in *England*; The French and other Foreign Nations, did at their pleaſure exact exceſſive Rates upon the Engliſh Nation: *Viz.* to 8 *s.* 10 *s.* and 12 *s.* *per* Buſhel, and at other times prohibited the ſame to come for *England*, eſpecially in time of War.

2. That the *Salt-Works* in *England*, if encouraged, are ſufficient to ſupply the whole Kingdom at moderate Rates.

3. That it hath been the Wiſdom of this preſent Parliament, in order to the giving ſome encouragement to the ſaid *Engliſh Manufacture*, to lay a Duty of 16 *s.* 8 *d.* *per* Wey on *Scotch Salt* (the Manufacture of His Majeſties Subjects) when *French Salt* payes but 12 *d.* *per* Wey to this time.

4. That the preſent decaying condition of the *Salt-Works* in *England*, is ſuch, That unleſs a higher Duty be impoſed upon French, Spaniſh, and other Foreign *Salt*, the ſaid Manufacture will in a ſhort time be ruined, and many thouſands of Families, who ſubſiſt thereby, deſtroyed and undone.

5. That the French King having by his continued Edicts, excluded the Importation of all *Engliſh Salt* into his Kingdom, and the *Scots* having for the advantage of their own Manufacture of *Salt*, lately impoſed an high Duty on *French*, &c. *Salt*, of the nature of a Prohibition, it is humbly conceived, it may be thought but reaſonable for the Parliament of *England* to lay on ſuch a Duty on Foreign *Salt* alſo, as may ſupport and encourage that Manufacture in *England*.

6. That what hath hitherto Obſtructed the doing of what is now deſired, hath been the want of an expedient, to preſerve the Foreign *Salt*, which ſhall from time to time be imploied in the Engliſh Fiſhery from ſuch Duties; which is now humbly propoſed may be particularly provided for.

Laſtly, It is humbly propoſed, That the Duty on ſuch Foreign *Salt*, may not longer be continued, then while Engliſh made *Salt* is ſold at ſuch Moderate Prices, as the Parliament in their Great Wiſdom ſhall think fit to limit and appoint.

REASONS

Humbly offered for the
Support and Encouragement
Of the Manufacture of

SALT

IN

ENGLAND.

The CASE of the ROCK SALT,

AS

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It now ſtands Burthen'd with a Higher Duty than the other ſorts of *Engliſh* made SALT.

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'TIS Certain, That the *Rock Salt* ought to be lookt upon as a Treaſure and a Bleſſing to this Kingdom, in its being ſo happily diſcovered in a Time of War, (whereby the Price of that Commodity hath been moderated, which in former Wars was wont to be Exceſſive) and in ſuch Quantities, as that we have now no more need of buying Salt from Forreigners, but may in ſome time be in a Condition to Tranſport it to Forreign Parts. And 'tis evident, that the Perſons concern'd in the other Salt works, do uſe their utmoſt Endeavours to bring this under all the Diſcouragements and Difficulties they can, to no other Intent, but that either by quite ruining the *Rock Salt*, or at leaſt making it dearer, they may keep up their own to higher Prices upon the People; which is a Deſign that can never be intentionally Countenanc'd by an *Engliſh* Parliament: Beſides that, it's plain that the Revenue will be leſſen'd, and the Funds prejudic'd, by the Decreaſe of the Expence, which Neceſſarily follows the Dearneſs of Commodities, by every ones ſparing the Uſe, and ſaving the Waſte of what is neglected when they are cheaper.

There are two Reaſons pretended by the Owners of the Brine-pits, why the *Rock Salt* ſhould be diſcouraged, or at leaſt made to pay a higher Duty than the other: The *Firſt* is, Leaſt the Rock being workt out in time, the Brine-pits ſhould be ſpoyl'd, by their Water's looſing it's ſtrength. The *Second* is, That the *Rock Salt* may afford to pay a higher Duty, becauſe they have their Coals much cheaper.

Theſe are ſufficiently anſwered, if there were no more to be ſaid, than that all Governments permit their Subjects to enjoy the utmoſt benefit of what Nature gives them; and there was never any ſuch thing heard, as that a Man ſhould be hindered by a Law, from making his beſt Advantage of a Rich Lead Mine newly diſcovered, for the ſake of his Neighbour, who had an ancienter one, which was much more Chargeable to Work, and yet yielded leſs Oar.

Yet there is no room for even theſe weak Objections; becauſe, *Firſt*, There's more probability of working out the Coal-Mines at *New Caſtle*, than of theſe Salt Mines; in ſome of which, the Veins of the Mineral Salt are twenty five yards thick: But then if it were poſſible to work them out, the Brine-pits would not be prejudic'd thereby, if as is generally believ'd, the Saline Petrefaction is cauſed by a Salt Water, and not the Brine-Springs impregnated by the Mineral Salt. For the *Second*, 'Tis true, that the Workers of the *Rock Salt* have their Coals cheaper in ſome Places; but then the digging, landing, and bringing the *Rock Salt* to the place where it muſt be melted into Brine, coſts manifold more than it doth the Brine-Workers, for they have no more to do than to pump it out of the Brine-Pit into the Pan for boyling, and they are thereby ſufficiently over recompenc't for the difference of the price of Coals.

If the Refining of *Rock Salt* ſhall be wholly diſcouraged, the Owners of the Salt Mines will be greatly injur'd in their Properties; divers Perſons that have been engag'd in that Buſineſs will be wrong'd, not only in being hindered from making a reaſonable Improvement by, but even quite loſing great Summs of Money, which they have laid out upon an Undertaking, not only Lawful, but alſo of Publick Conveniency to the Kingdom; many hundreds of Work-men will be thrown out of their Work, and depriv'd of the means of maintaining their Families; Employment for many ſail of Ships will be loſt, and the Weſtern Countries will be much incommoded, who have been for many Ages well furniſht with Salt from *Briſtol*, and other Ports of the *Seavern*, where they formerly refin'd upon Forreign Salt, but that being now in Effect prohibited, they make all their Salt out of the *Rock Salt*, and their Trade hath been ſo much encreas'd, ſince they have been able to ſupply the Place of *French* Salt, that they have much encreas'd their Work-houſes, and multitudes depend upon ſo conſiderable a Buſineſs; on whom 'twould be unreaſonable to put ſo great a hardſhip, as to deprive them of their way of Living at once.

'Tis therefore Humbly Hop'd, that when the Honourable Houſe of Commons, *ſhall be rightly inform'd in this Matter, they will, according to their declared Intention in the firſt Salt Act, aſcertain that all kinds of Salt whatſoever, made fit for uſe, ſhall pay alike Duty; and that the whole Duty, firſt ſecur'd at the Pits upon all the* Rock Salt, *ſhall be return'd when it hath paid the full Duty for all the Refin'd Salt that hath been produc'd from it.*

The CASE
Of the
ROCK SALT.

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THE CASE OF THE

REFINERS of ROCK-SALT in *LANCASHIRE*, *CHESHIRE*, and *FLINTSHIRE*,

Truly Stated, and Humbly Preſented to the Conſideration of the

Honourable Knights, Citizens, and Burgeſſes in PARLIAMENT Aſſembled:

To the End they may not pay a greater Duty on Salt than the Brine-Salt-makers do.

WHereas Rock-Salt is a Mineral, and digged out of the Earth (about 30 Yards deep, being 25 Yards thick) in the County-Palatine of *Cheſter*, and carried ſeveral Miles by Land, before it be Water-born or ſhipped, in order to be conveyed to thoſe Places where it is to be refined, being not fit for Uſe before; which is done by diſſolving the Rock-Salt in Water, and then boiling up that Brine until it be granulated, (as Salt is made of the Brine ſprings at the Wiches.)

And Rock-Salt refined, is found by Experience to be a good, ſtrong, and beneficial Salt; not only for Butter, Cheeſe, and curing Fleſh, but alſo for curing of Fiſh, as is well known in the Weſtern Parts of *England*, and other Places, where they have made Trial thereof.

And whereas by an Act made the 5th and 6th Year of His preſent Majeſty, and the late Queen, a Duty of One peny Half-peny a Gallon was laid on all Salt or Rock-Salt, made at any Works, or taken out of any Pits, There is a Proviſion in that Act, *To the Intent that Salt made, by melting and refining of Rock-Salt, may not, contrary to the true Intent and Meaning thereof, be charged more than other Salt, It is Enacted, That where any Rock-Salt ſhall be melted and refined, that had before paid the Duty, the Perſon who ſhall make ſuch Salt by refining, ſhall receive an Allowance and Abatement of the Duty on the Salt by him ſo made, after the rate of* 12 d. *for every Buſhel of Rock-Salt ſo melted.*

Now that this Matter may be plainly underſtood; It is to be obſerved, that 120 *l.* weight is accounted a Buſhel of Rock-Salt, and 56 *l.* weight is a Buſhel of White Salt, or Refined Salt.

Then ſuppoſe a Refiner ſhould buy 100 Buſhels of Rock-Salt, for which he pays 12 *d.* a Buſhel Duty, (beſides what he pays for the Rock it ſelf) then this Rock is diſſolved in Water, becomes Brine, and boil'd up into granulated Salt, which may make 150 or 200 Buſhels of refined Salt (more or leſs not altering the Caſe:) Then the King's Officer ſees what refined Salt is taken up; and if it ſhould appear to be 200 Buſhel, which would have come to 200 Shillings Duty, if it had been made of Salt Spring-water, or Sea-water, which had before paid no Duty: But being this 200 Buſhel was made of 100 Buſhel of Rock-Salt, which before had paid the Duty of 100 Shillings; and this being made appear by Oath to the Officer, the Officer doth make an Allowance or Abatement of the Duty before paid, which is call'd a Draw-back, and receives the Duty for the number of Buſhels of refined Salt, (may be 50 or 100) which are more than the quantity of Rock-Salt that was diſſolv'd: And by this means the Refiners of Rock-Salt, and Salt-Boylers, ſtood upon equal Terms.

Then by an Act made the 8th and 9th of His preſent Majeſty, an Additional Duty of One peny a Gallon was granted, from the 25th of *March*, 1697. until the 25th of *December*, 1699. for every Gallon of Salt and Rock-Salt, made at the Salt-Works, or taken out of any Salt-Pits: And there being only general Words in that Act, *That all, and every the Powers, Authorities, Directions, Rules, Ways, Methods, Penalties, Forfeitures, Clauſes, Matters, and Things in the forementioned Act of the 5th and 6th of His preſent Majeſty, and the late Queen, for, or concerning the raiſing, levying, aſcertaining, ſecuring, collecting, or recovering the ſaid Duty upon Salt, and Rock-Salt, ſhall be exerciſed, practiſed, applied, levied, recovered, and put in execution, for the raiſing, levying, charging, aſcertaining, ſecuring, collecting, recovering, and paying the ſeveral Duties by that Act granted, as fully and effectually to all Intents and Purpoſes, as if all, and every the ſaid Powers, Authorities, Rules, and Directions, Methods, Penalties, Forfeitures, Clauſes, Matters, and Things, were particularly Repeated, and again Enacted in the Body of that Act:* Yet becauſe that Clauſe relating to the Draw-back, or Allowance upon the melting or refining of Rock-Salt, not being particularly mentioned, the Officers of Exciſe do refuſe to give any Draw-back to the Refiners for that Additional Duty of 8 *d. per* Buſhel; ſo that they pay both for the Rock-Salt, and alſo for the Salt refined of the ſame Rock; which, is humbly conceiv'd, was never the Intention or Deſign of this Honourable Houſe, when that laſt Act was made.

By reaſon of this Double Duty being paid by the Refiners, many of them have made very little or no Salt ſince: Some, which paid 90, or 100 *l.* Duty a-week to the King, are now conſtrain'd to diſcharge moſt of their Workmen; and others who continue to work, do it to loſs, being in hopes of having Relief from the Parliament this Seſſions.

Seeing now that the Additional Duty of 8 *d. per* Buſhel expires in *December*, 1699. And the Refiners do hear that this Honourable Houſe deſigns to continue that Duty, and make it perpetual: And alſo to grant a farther Duty of 20 *d. per* Buſhel for the like time; which will be 2 *s.* 4 *d.* beſides the 12 *d. per* Buſhel by the firſt Act. The Refiners therefore do humbly hope, That they ſhall have the like Allowance and Draw-back of theſe Additional Duties of 2 *s.* 4 *d. per* Buſhel, as they have of the firſt Duty of 12 *d. per* Buſhel, for theſe Reaſons:

The Refiners have been at ſeveral thouſand Pounds Charges in building and fitting up their Works, many of which were made before the firſt Duty was laid upon Salt: And if they muſt pay more Duty than the Brine Salt-makers, they muſt of neceſſity give up their Works.

If the Refiners be prohibited from working (which the Inequality of the Duty will do) then the King's Revenue will be much diminiſhed; which plainly appears by what hath been paid at their ſeveral Works ſince the Duty commenced.

The Brine-men will have the Monopoly of Salt, (Foreign Salt, by Double Duty, being in Effect prohibited, and the Refiners not able to work by reaſon of the Inequality of the Duty) ſo that, in all probability, Salt will be at an exceſſive dear rate, whenas of late they have entered into Agreements not to ſell Salt under ſuch and ſuch rates.

When Salt comes to be very dear, then there will be the leſs ſpent and conſumed; which will alſo ſink the King's Duty and Revenue.

Being that it cannot be pretended, but that the refined Rock-Salt is as good and ſerviceable a Salt for all Uſes as the Brine-Salt is, it ſeems a little ſtrange, why the Subjects of *England* may not have the liberty to buy one or other, at as eaſie rates as formerly, (beſides the King's Duty) for ſome of the Refiners ſell for 8 pence, or 8 pence half-peny *per* Buſhel, 56 *l.* weight, (excepting the King's Duty) out of which they get but about one half-peny a-Buſhel profit, the price of the Rock, Carriage, Coals, Workmens Wages, and other incident Charges, being deducted.

Suppoſe there had been no Duty laid upon Salt, and the Brine-men had brought a Bill before this Honourable Houſe, to prohibit the Refiners of Rock-Salt from working, becauſe they made as good, or better Salt, as could be made from Brine; and Salt was likely to be very cheap, to the prejudice of their Brine-Works, if there was not a preſent ſtop put to the refining of Rock-Salt. This, with great Submiſſion, would have been a very frivolous and unreaſonably Bill, and might have receiv'd the juſt Cenſure of the Houſe as ſuch, Salt being a thing of ſuch abſolute Neceſſity to this Kingdom.

Then it ſeems a little unequal, that there ſhould be ſo great a Hardſhip put upon the Refiners of Rock in a Money-Bill, as would not paſs in a ſingle Bill, when the Subject is depriv'd of making the beſt Advantage of his Eſtate and Inheritance. And why one Man may not have the Liberty and Priviledge of making Salt of Rock, dug in his own Ground, as another Man hath of making Salt of Brine, taken out of his own Springs, is a thing worthy Conſideration.

If the Refiners of Rock-Salt give up their Works, then the Fund of the Bank of *England* will be ſo much weaken'd, and the new Subſcribers for the Loan of Two Millions, will not have ſo good a Security as they expected; beſides, the many thouſands of poor People, who are imploy'd in digging, carrying, and refining of the Rock-Salt, and the Shipping, and Sea-men who convey the ſame, muſt of neceſſity all be laid aſide.

This Refining of Rock-Salt is a late Project; and the Rock may be quickly dug up, and then there is an end of their Works.

This is a Frivolous Objection, and made by thoſe who do not rightly conſider that the Salt-Rock is above 25 Yards thick, inſomuch as under one Foot-ſquare of Ground may be dug up 240 Buſhels of Salt, which at 20 *d. per* Buſhel Duty pays the King 20 *l.* and by that proportion under a ſquare Yard of Ground (there being 9 ſquare Foot in a ſquare Yard) the King receives 180 *l.* Duty; and when the Duty comes to be doubled; *viz.* 3 *s.* 4 *d. per* Buſhel, then the Salt, which may be dug under One ſquare Yard (on the Surface of the Earth) will pay the King 360 *l.* Duty: Then let it be computed how many ſquare Yards there are in One Acre of Ground, and the great Tract of Ground that is provided with this Rock-Salt, there will be Salt ſufficient both for Home-Conſumption, and to export, for ſeveral Thouſands of Years, Allowance being made for Pillars that muſt be left, and all other things requiſite.

Wherefore it is humbly hoped, That the Refiners of Rock, ſhall but pay an equal Duty with the Brine Salt-makers, as they did under the firſt Act of Parliament, which laid the Duty of Three half-pence a Gallon (or 12 *d.* a-Buſhel) on *Salt*: And moſt humbly ſubmit to your Honours Great Wiſdom and Juſtice.

THE CASE OF THE *Refiners of Rock-Salt in* Lancashire *and* Cheshire.

816. no. 13.
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THE

Caſe of the Brine-Pits

TRULY STATED;

In Relation to the Duty expected from them:

Being an Anſwer to the Paper, Entituled, The Caſe of the Rock-Salt: *And alſo in Anſwer to the other Paper on that Subject.*

THE Additional Duty upon Salt, being by Parliament made the perpetual Fund of Intereſt of Eight Pound *per Cent. per Annum*, for Moneys to be raiſed to ſupply the Occaſions of the Government, no body will deny; but it muſt become the Wiſdom of that Parliament, to Encourage and Preſerve the Trade and Making of that Salt, which will be perpetual to anſwer the Perpetuity of that Duty.

The Queſtion therefore is, Whether the Ancient and Durable Trade of Making Salt from Brine-Springs in the County of *Cheſter*, which never fail, ſhall be Encouraged and Preſerved, or ſhall be Deſtroyed by encouraging a Deceitful Project of making Salt from Rock-Salt gotten there, which Experience, as well as Reaſon ſhews, does and will fail.

The Author of the Paper, Entituled, *The Caſe of the Rock-Salt*, begins his Diſcourſe, *That 'tis certain the Rock-Salt ought to be looked upon as a Treaſure, and a Bleſſing to this Kingdom, in its being ſo happily diſcovered in a Time of War.* Now ſeeing this Gentleman's Knowledge of the Rock-Salt is of no longer date than the Commencement of the War, he may be admitted to plead Ignorance in his own defence, and under that Plea I allow him to ſhelter all the reſt of his Errors.

If he reads Mr. *John Collins* his Book, Entituled, *Salt and Fiſhery*, Page the 4th. he will there find, *That the Rock-Salt was diſcovered in the Year* 1670. *in the Soil of* William Marbury *of* Marbury, *Eſq; not far from* Northwich *in the County of* Cheſter; But the Brine-Salt being then (as all things were in thoſe *Halcyon* Days) exceeding cheap, it was not regarded nor made uſe of till the late War; to ſupply which, the Taxes that were raiſed cauſing all things to be dear, then and not till then Poverty ſet Projectors on work to Ruine the Brine-Pits, and reap a Gain to themſelves by making Salt from the Rock.

As for what the ſaid Author taxeth the Brine-ſalt makers with, *viz. That either by quite Ruining the Rock, or at leaſt making it Dearer, they may keep up their own Salt to higher Prices upon the People.* If this Author's Eye-ſight was not through Self-Intereſt extreamly Dimm, he might by reading the Act now in Force, and the Bill alſo now depending in the Houſe, plainly ſee that effectual Care is taken to prevent thoſe Abuſes, by giving the Lord-Mayor of *London*, within the Bills of Mortality, and the Juſtices in the Counties at their reſpective Quarter-Seſſions of the Peace, full Power to ſet what Price they pleaſe upon Salt; and all Perſons are under great Penalty, obliged to ſell Salt at thoſe Prices.

And

And as to what the ſaid Author concludes that Paragraph with, *viz. That it's plain the Revenue will be leſſened and the Funds prejudic'd by the Decreaſe of the Expence, which Neceſſarily follows the Dearneſs of Commodities by every ones ſparing the Uſe, and ſaving the Waſte of what is neglected when they are cheaper.* This indeed is a very good Argument againſt the Additional Duty upon Salt; and if the ſaid Author pleaſes to enlarge upon that Topick, and leſſen the Fund in the Opinions of thoſe who are to lend their Money upon it, 'tis poſſible he may Reconcile the two contending Companies of Subſcribers, and meet with a Reward from the Government ſuitable to his Merits.

This Champion for the Rock-Salt, is pleaſed to raiſe two Reaſons or Arguments on behalf of the Brine-Pits, and thinks that he has done his Work by anſwering them his own way, and ſo as to pleaſe himſelf; The Firſt is, that *The Rock being worked out in time, the Brine-Pits will be ſpoil'd by their Water loſing its ſtrength:* And the Second is, that *the Rock-Salt may afford to pay a higher Duty becauſe they have their Coals much cheaper:* As to the Firſt of theſe he finds it to ſtick ſo cloſe upon him, that he is willing to get rid on't at any rate, and therefore by a pure ſhift of begging the Queſtion, allowing the Rock will be work'd out in time (which GOD knows how ſoon that may be) *Yet*, ſays he, *the Brine-Pits would not be prejudic'd thereby; If as is generally believed the Saline Petrefaction is cauſed by a Salt Water, and not Brine-Springs impregnated by the Mineral-Salt.* This manner of refuting Arguments is ſo very Weak and Deſpicable that I might paſs it over as not worth notice. But to inform him better, I ſhall deſire him to look into the ſaid Mr. *Collins* his Book, Page the 3d. where he will find that *Theſe Springs* (ſpeaking of Brine-ſprings) *being remote from the Sea, are conceived to ariſe from Rocks or Mines of Salt under the Earth, the which are moiſtned by ſome Channels or ſecret Paſſages under ground:* And thence he proceeds, and gives ſeveral Inſtances and Matters of Fact to Prove and Demonſtrate that Aſſertion. But further, it is impoſſible that ſuch a Profundity of Petrefaction as Twenty yards thick, which the Rock in one place (and but one) was found to be, could be produced by Salt-water; for if Salt-water had that occult Quality (which no Man ever affirmed it had) as to Tinge, Cruſt, or Petrifie, yet its operation can go nor reach no further than where the Water runs, and that's only the ſuperficial Part: and beſides, for a full and concluſive Anſwer to this Chimerical Fiction, If the Saline Petrefaction is cauſed by the Salt-water, then all the Brine-Pits would be turn'd to that ſaline Petrefaction, which to all Men's Eyes are apparently not ſo: It is therefore moſt certain, that the Brine-Springs are not the Efficient Cauſe of the Salt-Rock, but are impregnated by it; and that being taken away, the Springs muſt ceaſe to be ſalt. And ſo this Argument for the Brine, ſtill ſtands good againſt that Author. Let us now ſee if he will have any better Succeſs, in the Anſwer he gave to the other Argument, about the Coals being cheap where the Rock is refined, and dear where the Brine-Salt is made. The Anſwer he gives to this, is, That though he allows *the Refiners have Coals abundantly cheaper than the Brine-Salt-makers*; yet, ſays he, the *Charge of the Rock is great, whereas the Brine comes up with only a little pains of Pumping.* Now if this Perſon were a fair Dealer, he would have deſcended to the Particulars of the Charge of each; and to let him and every-body elſe ſee, (which they may do, if not blinded with Prejudice or Intereſt) that if the Rock-Salt upon refining draws back the whole Duty at the Pits, it will be impoſſible for the Brine-Pits to carry on the Trade. I deſire theſe Truths may be conſider'd:

Firſt, The ſinking of a Brine-Pit, by vaſt quantities of Timbrings and Plankings to ſupport the Rammings out of the Freſhes, coſts never leſs than 1500, oftner 2000 *l.* But a Rock-Pit is ſunk for a very ſmall Charge, becauſe they need not ram out the Freſhes: So that the charge of the Brine is greater than the charge of the Rock; and that quantity of Brine which will make a Tun of Salt, is equally as valuable as that quantity of Rock which will produce the ſame: For what is the Brine or the Rock of value for, but for the Salt they produce? Then conſider, that the County of *Cheſter* is ſurrounded (except a very little Part bordering to the Sea) with *Lancaſhire*, *Derbyſhire*, *Staffordſhire*, *Shropſhire*, *Denbyſhire*, and *Flintſhire*; in all which Counties, Coals are at 1 *s.* 9 *d. per* Tun; but at *Northwich* in *Cheſhire* (where the Brine-Pits are) Coals are at 14 *s.* 6 *d.* or 15 *s. per* Tun. Now the Rock being carry'd to the Coal in all thoſe Counties, (which the Brine cannot be) and there made to Salt, it will under-ſell the Brine-Salt

in

in all thoſe and other Places, juſt ſo much as the Coals are cheaper in one Place than the other, *viz.* 12 *s.* 9 *d.* or 13 *s. per* Tun. The Brine-Pits therefore being confin'd to ſuch a narrow Limit of Trade as their own County only (for the Trade to *Ireland* is deſtroy'd by the importation of foreign Salt there) they will not be able, nor is it worth their Charge to maintain and keep up their Works, ſo muſt and will leave off: And this being of abſolute neceſſity for 'em to do, let us conſider ſeriouſly what muſt and will be the inevitable Conſequence of it. The Brine-Pits, by not Working, will be neglected, and ſo will go to decay; and Freſh-water-Springs will break into them, ſo they will be for ever loſt: And then let us ſee how the Rock will ſupply us.

The Learned Author of *the Paper, entituled, The Caſe of Refiners of Rock-Salt in* Lancaſhire *and* Cheſhire, fanſies to himſelf, and would make us believe *there's a mighty Tract of Ground provided with this Rock-Salt; and being twenty, or twenty five Yards thick, he reckons that a Foot ſquare of Rock, will produce* 240 *Buſhels; which at* 20 *d.* per *Buſhel, comes to* 20 *l. Duty; and in proportion a Square Yard* (which for fear no one ſhould be as wiſe as himſelf, he tells us is 9 ſquare Foot) *will produce* 180 *l. Duty; and that doubled is* 360 *l. Duty.* All which is as much as to ſay, that *Three pence and Two pence is Five pence, and Five pence and Five pence is Two groats and Two pence, and Two groats and Two pence is Ten pence.* But all this does not prove to us, that we are certain of this great Tract of Ground ſo provided with this Rock as he ſpeaks of; and I can tell him of a Gentleman, Two, Three, or Four, that have good Eſtates adjoining to where this Rock-Salt is now gotten; but they canot find this Rich Treaſure; neither is it believed in thoſe Parts that it lies any where but in one ſmall Tract of Land only. But ſuppoſing it were there in a larger compaſs, yet ſtill it is but Suppoſition, not a Certainty to be relied on, either to anſwer *this Perpetual Duty to the Government*, or to ſupply the Occaſions of the Nation with Salt: Nay, even this Rock-Salt which is known already, is not to be relied on, for any Number of Years, *to ſupply either the Duty* or the Occaſions of the Country; for no leſs than Four of theſe Rock-Pits have fail'd in a very ſhort time; and the Mineral is of that diluting Temper, that the Pillars muſt and will fail, by the Springs and Waters with which the Pits are, and always will be infeſted: And then I deſire it may be remembred, that this Rock is gotten near to a conſiderable River; ſo that Experience ſhewing us theſe Pits and Hollows do and will break and fall, and by thoſe Breaches, that River and other Freſhes will be let in; and then we muſt fetch our Salt at exceſſive Rates from far, and bid farewel both to Rock and Springs. So that it were much to be wiſhed the Wiſdom of Parliament (it being a National Concern) would reſtrain the Proprietors of the Rock from digging and getting of it, and oblige them only to work the Brine thereof (which all of them have in great plenty) as the reſt of the Brine-Pits do: For I can compare their digging and getting the Rock-Salt, which affords ſuch a Rich and Perpetual Treaſure of Brine to the Nation, to nothing better than that miſerable Wretch, who had a Hen which laid him a golden Egg a-day; but he not being contented therewith, ripp'd up the Fowl, and ſo loſt all.

But if this ſhall not be approved of as yet, 'till the miſchievous Conſequence of getting the Rock do further appear; It is humbly hoped that the Brine-Pits ſhall not be forthwith deſtroy'd, *and the Rock-Salt wholly depended on for the Duty*, by allowing the whole Duty at the Pit to be drawn back upon Refining, but that the Eight pence which keeps them at *par* ſhall be continued. That the Eight pence continued on the Rock will not hinder the Refiner, is evident, for that they have conſtantly work'd as before; and that even notwithſtanding the Honourable Houſe of Commons did, early in this Seſſion, declare they would not, nor indeed had they any Reaſon, to take it off; It is therefore humbly hoped They will be Conſtant to that Reſolution, and continue the ſaid Eight pence upon Rock-Salt, as it was the laſt Year.

The CASE of the BRINE-PITS *Truly Stated:*

In Relation to the Duty expected from them.

Being an Answer to the Paper, Entituled, The Case of the Rock-Salt; *And also in Answer to the other Paper on that Subject.*

ROCR-SALT.

	l.	*s.*
2160 *lib.* of Rock, is 18 Buſhel, at 120 *lib.* to the Buſhel, and lies in		5
Duty for the ſame to the King, at 3 *s.* 4 *d.* for each 120 *lib.*		3
A Tun of Coals will refine the ſame to White-Salt; and in all the Counties which border upon, and ſurround *Cheſhire*, viz. *Lancaſhire, Derbyſhire, Staffordſhire, Shropſhire, Denbyſhire, Flintſhire*, the coſt is		2
Carriage of the ſaid Rock to all thoſe Counties		12
It is allow'd, that 120 *lib.* of Rock, will, with Freſh-water, yield 112 *lib.* of Salt; (but with Sea-water will yield a conſiderable Increaſe) and in proportion to that, the ſaid 2160 *lib.* of Rock, will produce 36 Buſhel of Salt, at 56 *lib.* to the Buſhel; the Duty of which to the King, if the whole 3 *s.* 4 *d.* aforeſaid, for each 120 *lib.* be allow'd to be drawn back upon Refining, is but		3
Total	6	19
But if 8 *d.* is continu'd, as it was the laſt Year, upon each Buſhel of Rock, at 120 *lib.* to the Buſhel, and not drawn back upon Refining; the Salt made from Rock, and the Salt made from Brine, will go to Market at *Par*: For the 8 *d.* upon the aforeſaid 18 Buſhel of Rock, comes but to		12
Total then of 36 Buſhel of Salt made from the Rock	7	11

Note.

BRINE-SALT.

	l.	*s.*
The Charges of ſinking a Brine-Pit is never leſs than 1500 *l.* often 2000 *l.* which, with the great and conſtant Charges of Repairs conſider'd; that Quantity of Brine which makes 36 Buſhels of Salt, is equally valuable with the like Quantity of Rock which will produce 36 Buſhels of Salt; ſo reckon'd as it is at		5
A Tun of Coals to boyl the ſaid Brine 'till it is granulated and made into Salt, will, at *Northwich* in *Cheſhire* (where the Brine-Pits are) coſt 15 *s.* and ſometimes near 17 *s.* but reckon them at only		14
Carriage of the ſaid Salt to all thoſe Counties where the Rock is run before		12
Duty of the Salt being 36 Buſhels, at 3 *s.* 4 *d.* *per* Buſhel		6
Total of Brine-Salt	7	11
Rock-Salt	6	19
So that in 36 Buſhels the difference is		12
Which being 4 *d.* *per* Buſhel is the prime Coſt of Brine-Salt delivered at the Works; ſo that if the whole Draw-back is allow'd to the Rock, the Brine-Salt cannot Trade out of the County.		
Total of 36 Buſhels of Salt made from Brine	7	11

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The Caſe of Rock-Salt, conſidered, in relation to a Clauſe now depending, for prohibiting the Refining thereof at any places, but near the Rock-Pits.

Cheſhire. *Helbie. Hyde. Frodſham.*
Cornwall. *Hale. St. Ives. Padſtow. Carmarthen. Darbyſhire.*
Devonſhire. *Byddiford. Barnſtable. Plymouth. Clovelly, Exeter.*
Eſſex. *Maningtree. Colcheſter. Malden.*
Flintſhire. *Flint. Moſtyn.*
Glamorganſh. *Cardiff. Swanſey.*
Kent. *Dover. Grane.*
London.
Lancaſhire. *Warrington. Hale. Liverpool. Peelſtouder.*
Monmouthſh. *Newport. Chepſtow.*
Norfolk. *Yarmouth.*
Pembrookſh. *Milford.*
Suffolk. *Woodbridge. Ipſwich. Walderſwick. Southwold.*
Somerſet. *Briſtol. Bridgwater. Mynhead. Ilcheſter.*
Suſſex. *Shoram.*

THIS Clauſe (if paſs'd) will *totally deſtroy* all the Refineries of Rock-Salt now in *England* and *Wales*, (all theſe being remote from the Pits, as appears by the Names of the Places in which they now are, and inſerted in the Margin.) And when theſe are deſtroy'd, none will be made near the Pits, the only places, by this Clauſe permitted, for any to be Erected;

Firſt, Becauſe the preſent Refiners were encouraged by ſeveral Acts of Parliament to Erect their Works; and this one Clauſe, deſign'd to deſtroy them, can't be expected to give greater Security to new, than the ſeveral former Lands did to thoſe that now are.

Secondly, The Refiners of Salt from Rock, and the Brine-Salters are now upon an equal foot; for the Advantage that Brine-Springs have in being much cheaper pump'd, than the Rock can be dugg, is ballanc'd by carrying the Rock to be Refin'd where Coals are cheaper than at the Brine-Springs or Rock-Pits; but theſe Advantages to the Rock being deſtroy'd by this Clauſe, it will turn the Scale ſo much to the Prejudice of the Rock, that the Refining at the Pits will be rendered unprofitable.

The Deſtruction of Rock-Salt will be ſo far from advancing the Duty, (as is ſuggeſted by the Brine-Salters) that it will (in all Probability) extreamly leſſen the ſame, by reaſon the Duty on Salt Refin'd from Rock is the ſame as upon any other *Engliſh* Salt, (*viz.*) 3*s.* 4*d.* for every Buſhel weighing 56 Pounds weight, and the Payment thereof much better ſecured; for the Rock-Salt is charged with 3*s.* 4*d.* for every 75 Pounds, which it muſt pay or ſecure before remov'd from the Pit into any Ware-houſe; this both ſecures the Duty on all that is dugg, and gives the Officer an Opportunity to know what quantity of Refin'd can be made from thence, for every 75 Pounds of Rock doth (one with another) make one Buſhel and ⅛ of Refin'd Salt, and to the Refiner is allow'd in his Duty what was firſt paid by the Rock; ſo that if any Refiner ſhall be ſo fooliſh as to attempt the defrauding the King, he can only hope to ſave the Duty of ⅛, which is but 5*d.* and if detected, he forfeits all his Salt, and 10*s. per* Buſhel, and 20*l.* for every Offence. Wherefore conſidering the high Penalty, the ſmall Profit, and great Difficulty, it's ſcarce credible that any will attempt it: But the Makers of Salt from Brine and Salt-Water, have greater Temptations and fair Opportunities to cheat the King; for their Brine is not meaſured when pumpt into the Pans, nor any accompt taken of their Salt before removed to their Ware-houſes, (ſometimes far diſtant from their Works) nor charged with the Duty till Sold from thence, whereas it's as reaſonable and practicable to impoſe a cautionary Duty upon their Brine in the Pans, or Salt when firſt taken out, as upon the Rock, before removed from the Pits: By which many Frauds in Brine-Salters might be prevented.

Whether it's the Intereſt of the King to deſtroy that Salt, whoſe Duty is ſo well ſecured, and ſuffer thoſe only to make any who are not under ſo ſtrict Obligations of Payment, is obvious to determine.

When the Makers of Salt from Brine and Sea-Water have thus ruin'd the Rock-Salt, they will be the Sole Salt Manufacturers; and in its natural Conſequence muſt raiſe the Price of this neceſſary Commodity, leſſen the Conſumption, and from hence alſo farther diminiſh the Duty.

Many of the preſent Refineries uſe Coals that pays the Duty, which brings great profit to the Crown; and the preſent Refineries being (not in private Creeks, as the Clauſe ſuggeſts, but) moſt in great Towns, as appears by the Margin, the Exciſe Officers there Employed may collect this Duty, without any additional Charge in Collection, as this Clauſe aſſerts.

The deſtroying of Rock Salt will be a prejudice to the Publick, in depriving it of the beſt ſort of Salt, for this being a Refined Salt, is Whiter, and freer from Droſs than other Salt, and in ſeveral places hath gained ſuch a preference, that where great Quantities of Salt Boiled from Sea Water, were Sold, very little, is now uſed; for thoſe places, do give 6*d. per* Buſhel more for this Refined Salt than for *Newcaſtle*.

There is no Uſe of Foreign Salt but this Refined Salt will anſwer, ſince this Salt is as ſtrong, and the Grain may be made as large, as any Occaſions require, and doth, in fact, in ſome places now ſupply the Uſe of Foreign Salt, and thereby prevents the ſending out of this Kingdhm great Sums of Money, which were formerly remitted in the purchaſe thereof.

The *Dutch*, who are the beſt Judges of Salt and Fiſhery, have many Refineries, and have by ſeveral Laws ſtrictly enjoined the Uſe of Refined Salt in preſerving their beſt ſort of Herrings: And (with all Humble Submiſſion) it ſeems ſtrange that our Law ſhould deſtroy the Refining of Salt, the beſt means of preſerving the chief part of our Fiſhery, when the Encouragement thereof (in the Opinion of all our *Legiſlators*) would moſt advance the Strength, Intereſt and Honour of Our Nation.

All Salt Boiled up of Sea Water, (as at *Newcaſtle*, *&c.*) is known to abound with a bittern or bitter Quality, which in the Opinion of thoſe beſt Skill'd in the Nature and Uſe of Salt, is a very noxious Quality; whereas this Refined Salt is entirely free therefrom, which (amongſt other Reaſons) makes it more valuable.

The preſent Refineries and Rock-Salt-Pits coſt above 50000*l. Built and made thro' the Incouragement of thoſe Laws by which at preſent they are guarded; and therefore its humbly hoped this Honorable Houſe (that never ruined the leaſt Property without Compenſation) will not paſs this Clauſe that deſtroys ſo much, without giving the leaſt Satisfaction. All which is humbly ſubmitted to the great Wiſdom and Juſtice of this Honorable Houſe.*

The Caſe of the Proprietors and Refiners of Rock Salt.

816. m. 13.
109

Objections againſt the Rock-Salt Anſwered.

227

Obje. THAT *the Rock is uſed in kind, to the Prejudice of the Revenue.*

Anſw. When the Buſhel of Rock-Salt was reduced from 120 Pounds to 75 Pounds, it was then thought that quantity was equivalent for Uſe to 56 Pounds of White-Salt: But if it can be proved, That 75 Pounds of Rock-Salt will go farther than 56 Pounds of White-Salt, or that the Uſe thereof in kind is practiced, with humble Submiſſion, a ſufficient Remedy (without deſtroying the Property of the Rock-Proprietors and Refiners, who are herein no Tranſgreſſors) might be, by the Reduction of the Buſhel of Rock-Salt, or the Prohibitting the Uſe thereof unrefined.

Object. *That a great number of ſmall Refineries are ſet up near the Sea, and in Creeks of Rivers, and other obſcure places, apt for the Concealing and Running of Salt there Refined.*

Cheſhire.
Helbre.
Hyde.
Frodſhem.

Cornwall.
Hale.
**St. Ives.*
**Padſtow.*

Carmarthen.
Darbyſhire.

Devonſhire.
**Byddiford.*
**Barnſtable.*
**Plymouth.*
**Cloverlly,*
**Exeter.*

Eſſex.
**Maningtree.*
**Colcheſter.*
**Malden.*

Flintſhire.
Flint.
Moſtyn.

Glamorganſh.
Cardiff.
Swanſey.

Kent.
**Dover.*
**Grane.*

*London.

Lancaſhire.
Warrington.
Hale.
Liverpool.
**Peeaſoder.*

Monmouthſh.
Newport.
Chepſtow.

Norfolk.
**Yarmouth.*

Pembrookſh.
Milford.

*Suffolk.
**Woodbridge.*
**Ipſwich.*
**Walderſwick.*
Southwold.

Somerſet.
Briſtol.
**Bridgwater.*
**Mynhead.*
**Ilcheſter.*
**Ham-Mills.*

Suſſex.
**Shoram.*

Anſw. The ſeveral Refineries now erected, are in the Places mentioned in the Margin, which are not obſcure; and if it be conſidered what great Buildings are neceſſary in Refining Rock-Salt, *viz.* for containing ſuch bulkey Matters as Coals, Rock and White Salt, Melting-Ciſterns, and Boiling-Pans, *&c.* and what great Smoak and Steams are commonly iſſuing from theſe Works, it muſt be thought impoſſible that any Refineries can be erected and carried on in obſcure places, or after a private manner, and concealed from the Officers of Exciſe, as is ſuggeſted, as the Ground of that Clauſe which is brought in to deſtroy the Refineries. Since therefore Reſineries cannot be concealed, and the Duty upon Rock it ſelf is ſo charged, ſecured and collected, that it's not poſſible the King can be defrauded; for as ſoon as the Rock is drawn out of the Pit, the ſame is immediately weighed by the Officer, and the Duty of 3*s.* 4*d.* for every 75 Pounds paid or ſecured; and none can be carried to any Refineries without a Permit, certifying the Quantity and Payment of the Duty, or ſecuring thereof: And the Rock is again weighed by the Officer attending the Refining-Works, before it's put into the Ciſtern to be Melted, and the Refiner allowed a Draw-back for no more than the Officer ſo weighs to be Melted; and by the Quantity Melted, the Officer knows what it will produce, and for every 56 Pounds of White Salt from thence produced, the Refiners pay 3*s.* 4*d.* ſo that whatſoever the Increaſe is, the Refiner is charged therewith, all ſuch White Salt being weighed by the Officer before he permits the Removal; whereby it manifeſtly appears, that this Duty is much better ſecured than what ariſeth from Salt made of Brine or Sea-Water; for there being no Charge upon their Brine, nor their Salt weighed when firſt taken out of the Pans, neither any Cognizance taken thereof, 'till the ſame is Sold from their Ware-houſes, (tho' in ſome places diſtant from their Pans.) Theſe Salters (for want of ſuch proper Checks) have frequent Opportunities of defrauding the King of the whole Duty.

Object. *The many Refineries multiply Officers, and thereby diminiſh the Duty.*

Anſw. By the Margin it appears all the Refineries are in ſuch places as lye under the Survey of Exciſe-Officers, which (without multiplying more) may be thought ſufficient to collect this Duty; but if more Refineries ſhould be erected, this Duty might thereby be encreaſed; *For the Encreaſe of the Makers and Sellers of a common and neceſſary Commodity encreaſeth the Conſumption thereof*, as appears with Relation to the Exciſe; for thoſe old Laws that reſtrained the Number of Mault-houſes and Ale-houſes were repealed, that by the Encreaſe of both, the Duty upon Mault, and the Exciſe upon Beer and Ale might be advanced.

The ſeveral Refineries thus marked * in the Margin, conſume Coals, Water-born which pay the King 5*s. per* Chaldron, whereby that part of the Revenue is encreaſed; whereas at *Newcaſtle* and the Brine-Pits no Coals are burnt that pay any Duty to the King; and therefore, in this Reſpect, the Refineries do more encreaſe the Revenue than any additional Charge of Officers can prejudice the ſame.

No Rock-Salt being by the Salt Bill to be removed but a ſmall diſtance from the Pits, hereby all Exportation thereof is prohibited; ſo that thoſe Foreign parts which are now ſupplied with Rock-Salt, for their Refineries, will, upon this Prohibition, have Recourſe to Foreign Salt, and thereby our Exportation and Navigation prejudiced.

It's therefore humbly hoped, that this Clauſe ſhall not paſs, which deſtroys above 50000 l. already laid out by the Proprietors and Refiners of Rock-Salt; the Duty whereon is ſo well ſecured, and the Conſumption whereof encreaſeth Navigation, and in ſeveral Reſpects advanceth the Revenue.

Objections againſt the Rock-Salt Anſwered.

816. m. 13.
110
R. England
Common Hall

A REPLY to the Paper, Entituled, *An Answer to the Case of the Proprietors and Refiners of* Rock-Salt.

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THAT pretended Answer, in Substance, saith,

First, *That if Refineries are not confined near the Pits, all other Salters will be Ruined, and the Salt Duty (which pays the Interest of three Millions) lost; and consequently the Publick obliged to make good that Deficiency.*

Answer, If the Permission of the *present* or Encrease of *new* Refineries will *destroy* all *other* Salt-Works, it must be occasioned from that *Preference* which Rock-Salt Refined meets with *above* all others in the Consumption, and *not* from the (suggested) Non payment of the Duty thereon, seeing this (by the many Checks it's subject to) is much *better* secured, than what ariseth from *other* Salt; and the Rock being *more* than *sufficient* to supply this Kingdom with Salt, the Duty which this *could* produce would *effectually* pay the Interest of three Millions; and it's presum'd, those concerned in that Debt do not care whether *Refined* or *other* Salt pays their Interest, *so the same be paid.*

Secondly, *That Paper suggests, That soon after the Rock is weighed into the Cistern, the Draw back allowed, and the Officer gone, the Refiner takes half out, and carries it to his Ware-house; and this being again weighed into the Cistern, a new Draw-back is allowed: And this so often repeated, that Draw-backs have been given Refiners for twice as much as the Rock paid at the Pits.*

Answ. The Cautions taken to secure this Duty, renders such Designs altogether impracticable; for by the *Certificate*, it appears to the Officer *what Quantity* of Rock-Salt hath been brought to the Refinery; so that if any Refiner should endeavour to get a Draw-back for more than the Certificate specifies, the Officer would not only deny a Draw-back for that Overplus, but seize the same, as the Law requires: And all Merchants know, that no Draw-backs upon any Goods are allowed for more than by Certificate appears to have paid the Duty. Therefore that Answer supposeth a Crime to be often committed, from whence there can't possibly be the least Advantage; but every such Transgression would be attended with a *certain* Discovery and Loss, *(viz.)* the Forfeiture of the Rock.

But if notwithstanding what hath been said, any should still suggest that the allowance of Draw-backs to the Refiners will be prejudicial to the Revenue.

The Proprietors and Refiners of Rock are very willing that their Salt Refin'd from Rock should be charged (as Salt made of Brine and Sea-Water) with 3 *s.* 4*d.* for every 56 Pound weight at the Works only, which will remove all colours of suspicion from the allowance of Draw-backs.

Thirdly, *He saith, that Rock is used in Kind, and thereby the King is defrauded of the Duty arising from 19 Pounds in every Bushel so used, for 75 Pounds being a Bushel of Rock, pays but 3 s. 4 d. and 56 l. (being a Bushel of white Salt) pays as much.*

Answ. If any do use the Rock in kind, and that be found prejudicial to the Revenue, a Reduction of the Bushel of Rock to less than 75, or prohibiting the Use in Kind, would effectually prevent this Practice; and yet still preserve the Refiners interest, which being against such practice, it seems (with all submission) very unreasonable to destroy their properties for their Enemies Actions.

Fourthly, *That author asserts, That a bitter Quality (inseparably incident to all Rock Refin'd Salt) prejudiceth all Flesh and Fish therewith Salted, both which (he pretends) are much better preserv'd with Brine or Sea water Salt, neither of which (he saith) is subject to that ill Quality.*

Answ. That this Suggestion is false, may be proved by an easie and cheap Experiment, within every Mans Power, *(viz.)*

Let a parcel of *New-Castle* Salt, and a parcel of Salt refin'd from Rock be put into a moist place, so that Brine may drain from each, and it will evidently appear by the Taste that the Brine which comes from the *New-Castle* Salt is very bitter and ill tasted, and the other of a pleasant salt Tast, and not in the least infected with a bitter Quality.

Fifthly, *The answer pretends, That if the Brine were Measur'd and Chvrg'd, the same would be so far from preventing of Frauds, that it would give the Brine-Salter greater opportunity of cheating the King, than now they have.*

Answ. By Gauging the Brine in the Cisterns, the Officer will make a much nearer guess at the quantity of Salt, thence to be produc'd than from the weight of the Rock, he can tell what quantity of Refin'd Salt can be made from it. How Incredible therefore is it that from this cautionary check upon the Brine-Salter, (which would effectually prevent Concealment) he should have a better opportunity to Cheat then they had before.

Sixthly, *That Gentleman in his Conclusion, chargeth the Refiners with having Cheated the Nation of Ten times more than the cost of all their Refineries comes to, for which, if not punish'd, they are, in his Opinion, sufficiently gratify'd for the loss of all their Works.*

Answ. The Rock Pits, Refineries and Dependencies are modestly thought to have cost 50000 *l.* and consequently the Cheat of the Refiners, according to his Charge, 500000 *l.* whichSum is computed to be Five times more than the Duty of all the Rock that hath been Dug, doth amount to. But no Refiners having been yet discover'd and punish'd, proves their Innocence much better then his printed Charge can their guilt.

In a publish'd Accompt of Rock Salt, from the 25th of *Dec.* 1699. to the 25th of *Dec.* 1700, It appears that the quantity of Rock enter' in *Cheshiere*, and the Duty thereof was as followeth *(viz.)*

	Bushels.	*Gall.*	*Duty. l.*	*s.*	*d.*	*Bushels.*	*Duty. l.*	*s.*	*d.*
Rock Entered and Delivered in *Cheshire*, and the Duty paid or secured, —— —— ——						246142	41023	13	04
Rock Exported and the Draw back allowed, —— ——	19053	0	3175	10	00	246142	41023	13	04
Rock Melted and the Draw back allowed the Refiner, ——	208641	7	34773	12	11				
Rock then resting at the Refineries, —— —— ——	018447	1	3074	10	05				

From whence that Accompt suggests, that the Refiners defrauded the King of the Duty of 19 Pounds in the Bushel of all Rock Refined; which Duty (he saith) amounted unto 11798 Pounds.

This false Charge is grounded upon these two Suppositions;

First, That all Rock produceth the same quantity of Refined Salt.

Secondly, That for whatsoever Refined Salt each Bushel of Rock produced above 56 Pounds, no Duty was paid by the Refiner.

That the first of these is false, is evident to Sight, for there being a Mixture of Dross in the Rock-Salt, which is part of its Weight; when that Mixture is, by Refining, abbstracted, and the Remainder in White Salt, can't then be the first Weight of the Rock.

That the second Supposition is not true, appears by the considerable Summs which have been paid by the Refiners, for that quantity which the Bushel of Rock, at 75, hath encreased above 56 Pounds in Refined Salt; but this Encrease was designedly concealed in that Accompt, the better to colour that false Charge against the Refiners.

The Rock being of different Degrees in Fineness, and some Refined in Fresh and others in Salt Water, no reasonable Judgment and Conclusion can be made from some particular Works, but the gross Accompt of the Encrease of the Rock, from all the Refineries, is the only Test, from which to make a true Judgement: So that (to make the last mentioned Paper a just Accompt) the gross Summ which hath been paid by all the Refineries, for their Encrease, and a reasonable Allowance; for the Dross in the Rock ought to have been therein charged, (on behalf of the Refiners) to counter-ballance that 11798 falsely laid to their charge, as a cheat, from whence a warrantable conjecture might be made, whether any Deficiencies that have, or may happen in the Salt Duty, ought to be charged upon the Refiners or upon the Makers of Salt from Brine or Sea Water.

Wherefore it's humbly hop'd this Honourable House will not pass that Clause, which destroys so much Property, and no ways promotes the Duty, when other measures (with humble submission) may be propos'd, that will effectually secure the RIGHT *of the King, without the least destruction of the* PROPERTY *of the Suqject.*

A REPLY on behalf of Rock-Salt and Refineries.

THE

CASE of SALT-PETRE.

The Bill now depending is for the free Importation of Salt-petre *from all parts in Amity with their Majeſties for the Term of for the Uſe of their Majeſties Ships and Army, and that the Merchants may be furniſhed with* Gun-powder *for their Ships at reaſonable Rates.*

IN caſe their Majeſties had a Neceſſity for *Petre*, this Bill (being for the free Importation without *Cuſtom*) would be prejudicial to them, by raiſing the Price in *Holland*, and ſo the *Dutch* would receive the Benefit of this Bill.

But if there were a *Cuſtom* Impoſed of Sixty pounds *per* Tun, this would fall the Price in *Holland*, ſo that their Majeſties might buy it cheap there for their own Uſe, and receive a Benefit by the *Cuſtoms* of what is Imported by Merchants.

As to the furniſhing Merchants Cheap, there is the ſame Reaſon for the free Importation of all Commodities from *Holland*, which are cheaper there than in *England*, and thereby to give the *Dutch* the Monopoly, for the Intereſt of their *Money* and Pay of their *Sea-men* being ſo much leſs than ours, they will alwayes underſell us.

But it is ſuſpected that this *Bill* is promoted by private Merchants who (on Confidence thereof) have bought *Petre* at the laſt Sale at *Amſterdam*, which began 13 *Novemb.* laſt, and intend to Import and ſell it here, before the Arrival of the *Eaſt-India* Ships, which are Expected in two or three Months with *Petre* ſufficient to ſupply their Majeſties Stores for next Winter: And in the mean Time there will be great Quantities made in *England*, and the Stores are already provided to furniſh the *Fleet* and *Army* for next Summer; and in Caſe there were no *Salt-Petre* in *England*, the King may be, and is yearly furniſhed with what *Powder* he wants from *Holland*.

THE CASE OF Salt-Petre.

REASONS

Humbly Offer'd againſt

The SALT-PETRE Bill,

Which is for Importing *Petre* for one Year, Paying the old Duty (5 *l. per* Tun) and Selling the King at 75 *l. per* Tun, notwithſtanding the Act of Navigation.

1. THE Crown hath no neceſſity for this Bill, for the Stores at preſent are furniſhed, and if they ſhould be exhauſted they may be ſupplyed from *Holland* without this Bill; and therefore the Officers of the Ordnance (who are not Members of the Honourable Houſe of Commons) do declare that this Bill is a Myſtery to them.

2. This Bill is not for the Intereſt of the Crown for want of a high Impoſt, whereby the Crown might import it under 75 *l. per* Tun.

But to Stave off an Impoſt the poor Tradeſmen are made Petitioners, and it is obſervable that this Petition did not come into the Houſe until the firſt Caſe was Printed againſt this Bill: In which an Impoſt was propoſed, which was generally approved of; inſomuch that the Sollicitors for the Bill, durſt not proceed in it till they had got the Tradeſmens Petition to offer againſt an Impoſition; becauſe they ſay, that tho' an Impoſition makes it cheap to the Crown, yet it makes it dearer to the Subjects. But this is a Fallacy too, for if the Bill paſſes without an Impoſt, it raiſes *Petre* in *Holland* as much as the Impoſt comes to; and if it Paſſes with an Impoſt, it falls the Price as much as the Impoſt comes to; as for Example, if this Bill Paſſes without a New Impoſt, it is expected that *Petre* will be in *Holland*, at Eighty or Ninety Pounds *per* Tun; and if it Paſſes with a New Impoſt of Thirty pound *per* Tun, it will be Sold there under Sixty Pound, and then the Crown of *England* will receive Thirty Pound: So that the Bill without an Impoſt, gives the Thirty Pound *per* Tun to the Dutch, and with an Impoſt to the Crown of *England*; which will make no difference in the Price to any *Engliſh* Subject, except the Sollicitors of this Bill, for ſuch Quantities as they have already bought; and it is not expected from them, that they will afford theſe Tradeſmen this *Petre* as cheap as they can; but that they endeavour by this Bill to diſable all others to buy ſo cheap as they have done.

And if the Petitioners againſt this Bill might be heard, it would appear, that the Tradeſmens pretences are frivolous and falſe; and that *Salt-Petre* is a very inconſiderable ingredient in any of their Trades, for the Diers who uſe moſt (and therefore are ſet in the Front of the Petition) uſe it only in Bow-dies, and there are not above ten in the Kingdom who die that Colour; and for every twenty Shillings worth of *Salt-Petre* which they uſe, they uſe twenty Pounds worth of *Cocheneal*, which is a Commodity prohibited by the ſame Act of Navigation, and by means thereof, is now at twice the Price in *England* as in *Holland*, and yet theſe Diers don't complain for want of *Cocheneal*; nor did they know their want of *Petre*, till the Sollicitors of the Bill told them, and there are twenty other Commodities, which (by Reaſon of the ſame Act of Navigation) are now at twice the Price in *England* as they are in *Holland*; and had the Sollicitors of this Bill bought up as great Quantities of any of thoſe other Commodities in *Holland*, as they have of *Salt-Petre*, they might have had as many Pretences and Petitioners for importing them, as they have for the Paſſing of this Bill; which if it doth paſs, is to the Diſcouragement of all other Engliſh Subjects and Traders; who depend upon the Laws in being, and lay out their Monies and Trade accordingly; and if ſuch fundamental Statutes as the Act of Navigation may be repealed on a ſudden, by the inſtance of two or three Men, no Man can be ſafe in his dealings; and upon the Confidence of this Act, the *Eaſt-India* Company and Interlopers, have given out larger Commiſſions for *Petre* than ever they did before, and ſeveral Private Gentlemen in *England* have laid out above five thouſand Pound apiece in Order to make *Salt-Petre* in *England*, and tho' they can't give Security to furniſh the Crown, yet by this, and the Expectancy of the return of the *Eaſt-India* Ships, the Kingdom hath a greater Expectancy and Security for *Petre*, than ever it had before; and the Sollicitors of the Bill are aware of this, and therefore Preſs this Bill for one Year, in which they'll accompliſh all their private ends, and occaſion the carrying out from hence of a above hundred thouſand Pounds to the *Dutch*, only to ſave a few Tradeſmen a little Money in the Price of *Salt-Petre*, by which they loſe nothing, thô the Price were higher than it is, for they are repaid it in the Sale of their Commodities. And by ſuch means, the *Dutch* (by Computation of the Exchanges between *England* and *Holland*) have already, ſince the War, drawn from hence above three Millons of our Money upon the Ballance of Trade, and we are daily running in their Debt, by owing them our Money for their Commodities: And this Bill by diſcouraging all other Means of ſupplying the Nation with *Petre*, will put us under a Future Neceſſity of being beholden to the *Dutch* for our Stores, at what Rates they pleaſe.

Againſt the

Salt-Petre Bill.

K. Inglend. Commons, Hous. 231

WHereas it hath been inſinuated by divers Intereſted Perſons, to the Members of this Honourable Houſe, That the Glaſs-makers, Dyers, Refiners, and Makers of *Aqua Fortis*, do not uſe any conſiderable quantity of *Salt-Petre* in their Trades; and that the Bill now depending for the Importation of *Salt-Petre*, is not of great Conſequence to them; which being moſt notoriouſly falſe and untrue.

The Chief of the ſaid Trades do attend at the Door, to atteſt and make out, to the full Satisfaction of this Honourable Houſe:

That without *Salt-Petre* the ſaid Trades cannot be carried on.

That they do uſe and expend upwards of 300 Tuns yearly.

And that by reaſon of the Ingroſſers exacting an Intolerable high Price of them, for a long time paſt, Cloths have been ſent to *Holland* to be Dyed: All our *Aqua Fortis*, which is the Manufacture of *Salt-Petre*, is now Imported from *Holland*; and the ſaid poor Tradeſmen very much Impoveriſhed: And that unleſs *Salt-Petre* be reduced to a more moderate Price, the ſaid Tradeſmen and their Families muſt inevitably be ruined, and the *Dutch* much more Inriched, by Dying our Cloths, Importing *Aqua Fortis*, Refining our Gold and Silver, and furniſhing our Plantations with Gunpowder, than tis poſſible by the Importation of *Salt-Petre*, during the Pleaſure of this Honourable Houſe.

Their Caſe is moſt humbly recommended to this Honourable Houſe; and it's hoped, deſerves Compaſſion.

W

Salt-Petre.

K London: Royal Lustring Company. 816. m. 13. 114 232

An ABSTRACT of such Parts of several Statutes relating to Silks called Alamodes and Lustrings, as may guide Officers, and others, in the Execution thereof; and direct all Dealers in such Silks, to avoid the Penalties therein contained.

THAT no Person shall buy or sell, or send beyond Sea, any Black Alamodes or Lustrings, unless they have the Seal or Seals, Mark or Marks used for Foreign Goods at the *Custom-House*, or the Seal and Mark used by the *Lustring-Company* for Goods manufactured by them, under forfeiture of all such Goods, and also the Summ of 100 *l.* for every Offence. 6 & 7 *W.* 3. chap. 18.

That if the Buyer of such Goods not sealed, do within Twelve Months after, discover the Person of whom he shall buy the same, he shall not only be discharged of the Penalty, but shall receive one Moiety of the Summ hereby imposed upon the Party so selling or disposing of such Silks. The same *Stat.*

All Black Alamodes and Lustrings, wheresoever manufactured, which shall be found in the custody or possession of any Person, not marked and sealed with the Mark and Seal of the *Custom-House*, or of the *Royal Lustring-Company*, shall be forfeited, and may be seized as forfeited, whether the same have been before bought and sold, or not; and the Person in whose custody or possession the same are found, shall incur the Penalties in the precedent Clause. 8 & 9 *W.* 3. chap. 36.

No Alamodes and Lustrings, that after the 10th. of *April*, 1697. shall be seized and forfeited, shall be used in *England*; but immediately, on seizure, shall be carried to the *Custom-House* Ware-house in *London*, and there sold by Inch of Candle, on Condition to be Exported, and Security given for Exportation: Which Security shall be discharged by Certificate from the Chief Magistrate or Officer of the Port where such Goods shall be landed, or Oath made that they were lost at Sea. The same *Stat.*

On Exportation of Foreign Lustrings or Alamodes, the Exporter shall not receive, draw back, or be re-paid the Customs or Impositions paid or secured on Importation of the same, or any part thereof. Same *Stat.*

From and after the 1st. of *July*, 1698. no Foreign Alamodes or Lustrings shall be Imported into any other Port than *London*; and Notice shall be given to the Commissioners of the Customs, of the Quality and Quantity, with the Marks, Numbers and Package of all such Silks intended to be Imported, with the Name of the Importer, and the Ship and her Burthen, and of the Commander, on which they are to be laden, and the Port where they are to be taken on board; And a Licence shall be taken under the Hands of the said Commissioners, or any Three of them, for the Importing the same. 9 & 10 *W.* 3. chap. 43. *In which are also the following Clauses:*

The said Commissioners shall cause to be marked and sealed, all such Alamodes and Lustrings which shall be Imported according to this *Act*, and keep a Registry thereof in the *Custom-House*, *London*: And if any such Silks shall be Imported into any other Port than *London*, or Imported without Notice and Licence, and the Duties paid, or shall not be so sealed and marked, such Silks or the full Value shall be forfeited: And Silks seized and forfeited by virtue of this or any former *Act*, shall be Sold and Exported; and the same Rules shall be observed in the Selling and Exporting thereof, as are mentioned in the precedent *Stat.* of 8 & 9 *W.* 3. chap. 36.

All Persons who shall Import or bring, or cause or procure to be imported or brought into this Kingdom, any Alamodes or Lustrings, contrary to this *Act*, or knowingly receive or take the same into their House, Ware-house, custody or possession, or sell, barter, or offer to sale, or cause to be sold or bartered, or offered to sale, any such Silks so fraudulently Imported, and their Aiders, Abettors and Assistants, knowing thereof, shall forfeit 500 *l.*

If any Commission or Warrant-Officer, or other Person in the Service of His Majesty, and having the Command of any Ship, shall Import, bring, send or convey, or procure or suffer to be Imported, or take on board any Alamodes or Lustrings in order to be Imported, or unship or suffer to be unshipt into any Boat or other Vessel, any such Silks, knowing thereof, he shall, over and above the Forfeitures and Penalties in this or any other *Act*, be, *ipso facto*, rendred incapable of Serving His Majesty by Sea or Land, or of having any Benefit which he may be intitled to, by virtue of such Service: And if any Seaman or other Person belonging to any Ship, shall discover any Alamodes or Lustrings imported, or unshipt into any Boat or other Vessel, in order to be Imported contrary to this *Act*; such Persons shall (over and above their Part of the Forfeitures by this *Act*) be immediately Discharged from on board such Ship, if they desire the same, and the Captain or Master shall immediately give them a Ticket, intitling them to all their Wages due on board such Ship.

If any Persons alter, counterfeit or misapply either of the Seals or Marks of the *Custom-House*, or of the *Royal Lustring-Company*, they, their Aiders, Abettors and Assistants, shall, for every Offence, forfeit 500 *l.* and stand in the Pillory Two Hours: And all Persons who shall buy or sell, or have in their custody or possession, any Alamodes or Lustrings with a Counterfeit-Seal or Mark, or with the *Custom-House* or *Company's* Seal or Mark not lawfully affixed thereto, knowing thereof, and not discovering, shall forfeit the Goods, and 100 *l.*

Any Persons with a Writ of Assistance from the *Exchequer*, or a Constable or Officer, and a Justice of Peace's Warrant, may, in the Day-time, enter any House, Shop, or other Place, to search for and seize any Alamodes or Lustrings imported contrary to this or any other *Act*, or not sealed and marked as aforesaid, or sealed or marked with any Counterfeit Seal or Mark; and in case of Resistance, to Break-open Doors, Chests, and other Package, there to seize, and from thence to bring any such Silks: And the Justices of Peace are to grant such Warrants to Credible Persons making Oath they suspect there are such Silks where they intend to search: And if any Dispute arise, whether such Silks were Manufactured beyond the Seas, or Imported contrary to this *Act*, the Proof shall lie upon the Importer, Claimer, or Owner, and not upon the Prosecutor.

All Officers of the Customs, and all other Officers, shall be assisting in the execution of this *Act*: And if any Officer of the Customs, knowingly, connive at the fraudulent Importation, delivering, receiving, buying

buying or ſelling any Alamodes or Luſtrings, or if any Perſons taking upon them to Seize or Proſecute in purſuance of this or any other *Act*, ſhall by Colluſion delay or delay Proſecution, they ſhall forfeit 500 *l.* and be incapable of any Office or Employment.

Perſons convicted for any Offence againſt this or any other *Act* relating to Alamodes or Luſtrings, and ſhall offend a ſecond time, or oftener, ſhall, ſo often as they offend, forfeit Double the Summ inflicted by this *Act*.

All Perſons offending contrary to this, or any other *Act* relating to Alamodes or Luſtrings, may be Proſecuted in any Action, Suit or Information, and thereupon a *Capias* ſpecifying the Penalties ſued for may iſſue, and ſufficient Bail ſhall be given by Natural-born Subjects or Denizons, to appear at the return of ſuch Writ, and at the time of Appearance, ſufficient Bail to anſwer the Penalties in caſe of Conviction, or to ſuffer Impriſonment.

All Penalties and Forfeitures impoſed hereby, or by any former Law relating to Alamodes or Luſtrings, ſhall be Two Third Parts to His Majeſty, and One Third to the Proſecutor; the Charge of which Suit ſhall be born by His Majeſty, out of His Majeſty's Part of the Forfeitures.

No Claim ſhall be entred to any Silks ſeized as aforeſaid, till Security given, by Recognizance, to anſwer the Penalties and Forfeitures, with full Coſts of Suit, in caſe a Verdict ſhall paſs, or Judgment be entred for the Plaintiff: And in default of ſuch Security within the limited time, the Goods to be forfeited, and Judgment entred accordingly.

This *Act* to be conſtrued moſt beneficially for the Proſecutor, and for preventing the Miſchiefs hereby provided againſt.

All Informations or Actions brought by any Informer, for any Offence againſt this *Act*, ſhall be commenced within Two Years after the Offence committed.

For the more effectual Execution of the ſaid Statutes, *the* Royal Luſtring-Company *give Notice, That if any Perſon will give Information to them, whereby any the Offences aforeſaid may be Diſcover'd, they will Aſſiſt ſuch Perſons in Proſecuting the Offenders: And to prevent all Abuſes in the Execution of the ſaid Laws, the* Company, *upon application to them, will take care that no Perſon (Dealing in Alamodes and Luſtrings made by them) be in any wiſe injured.*

And for the Accommodation of all Dealers, who may have occaſion to cut their Silks into ſmall Parcels, for Sale; The Company *will at any time, upon requeſt, affix a convenient number of Seals to their Pieces, which contain generally upwards of Sixty Ells; which Seal hath been made of Lead, and is now made of Tin, and hath on one ſide the Arms of the City of* London, *viz. a* Croſs and Dagger; *And on the other ſide, the Arms of the* Company, *being a* Mulberry-Tree, Two Flyes, *and* Three Cocons *(which in form reſemble an Egg,) and for the Creſt, a* Juſtice: *And together with each Seal, there is alſo upon the ſame String (which is of one entire piece) a Mark, being a ſmall Indent made in Parchment, on which is the Number of the Piece; Regiſtries of which are kept by the* Company, *for the better Diſcovery of Counterfeit-Seals and Marks, and ſuch as may be miſapplied.*

Luſtring-Houſe *in* Auſtin-Friars, London.
April, 1699.

E 53

To the Right Honorable the COMMONS of ENGLAND Aſſembled in PARLIAMENT.

The humble Petition of the Maſter, Wardens, and Aſſiſtants of the Company of Silk-Throwers, London.

Moſt humbly ſheweth,

THat through hard Service and Induſtry the Petitioners have obtained to be perfect Artiſts in *Throwing* of *Raw Silk* here, which was heretofore, (namely) at the time of the making of the Act of 5. *Eliz.* touching Handicraft Trades then in uſe, and ſome years after wrought by Strangers in Forreign Parts; By which Trade between Forty and Fifty thouſand poor Men, Women, and Children, are conſtantly Imployed and Relieved, in and about the City of *London.*

That for preventing of Abuſes and Deceits in their Trade, and encouragement of Honeſt and Expert Workmen therein, the Petitioners procured a Charter of Incorporation, under the Great Seal of *England*, 5. *Caroli primi*, and Ordinances under the Judges Hands and Seals, according to the Statute 19. *Henry* 7. *Cap.* 7. for the Regulating of all Perſons uſing the ſaid Trade, within the City of *London* and Four miles thereof.

That notwithſtanding the ſaid Charter and Ordinances Granted and Confirmed unto the Petitioners, and the great Charges the Petitioners and their Predeceſſors have from time to time been at in the Execution of the Power and Strength of their ſaid Charter and Ordinances, divers unskilful Perſons, who never were bred as Apprentices to the ſaid Trade of *Silk-Throwing*, have of *Late years* Intruded into the ſaid Trade, and have Set up the ſame: And dwelling in Places beyond the Bounds and Circuit of the Petitioners Search by their Charter, do uſe divers Deceits in the *Throwing* and *Working* of the Manufacture of *Silk*, to the great Wrong and Injury of the Commonwealth, and the great Diſcouragement of the Artiſts of the ſaid Trade; which Intruders and their Deceits the Petitioners for want of Power cannot Reform nor Suppreſs. And for want of a Penal Law to proceed againſt, and puniſh ſuch people as are imployed by the Petitioners in the Winding of *Silk*, for their Pawning, Imbeſſling, Selling, and Detaining of *Silk* when delivered them to Winde, and to Proceed againſt, and Puniſh the Buyers and Receivers of ſuch *Silk*: Many of the Members of the ſaid Company of late have been utterly Undone, and More are like to be undone; And indeed, unleſs a Law be made for the Puniſhment of the ſaid Imbeſſers, Purloyners, Buyers, Receivers, and Takers to Pawn of *Silk*, in ſuch like manner as the Imbeſſers, Purloyners, Buyers, Receivers, and Takers to Pawn of *Wooll* and *Yarn* are by the Act of 7. *Jacobi Cap.* 7. to be puniſhed. And that by favor of this Honorable Court, the Bill now humbly Preſented by Your Petitioners to the Conſideration of this High and Honorable Court, for Reformation of the above mentioned Abuſes and Enormities, or ſome other Effectual Law be ſuddenly Paſſed, not onely the Trade of *Silk-Throwing*, which Imployes between Forty and Fifty thouſand of Poor, will fall to the Ground, but His Majeſty will loſe a Great and Conſiderable Annuall Benefit, which redounds to him by the Cuſtomes of *Raw Silk*, which is yearly Imported into this Kingdom to be Wrought here: And the *Silk* which Annually was wont to be brought into this Kingdom to be *Thrown* by His Majeſties Subjects here, will (as formerly it was, before the ſame Trade was known or underſtood in *England*) be *Thrown* altogether in parts beyond the Seas.

For remedy of all which inevitable Evills and Inconveniences, The Petitioners moſt humbly beſeech this moſt High and Honorable Court, to be pleaſed to take the Petitioners ſaid Bill into your Grave and Serious Conſiderations, and to be pleaſed to Paſs the ſame, or ſuch other like effectual Law, as by this High and Honorable Court ſhall be adjudged meet and fitting;

And the Petitioners as in duty bound ſhall ever pray, &c.

816. m. 13.
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THE CASE OF THE Manufacturers of Grograin Yarn.

K. England. Commons, H. of
234

THAT ſince the Settlement of Manufacturing *Raw Silk* and *Grograin Yarn* in *England*, great Multitudes of People have Increaſed and been Maintain'd, the Productions of our Lands Expended, and Navigation improved by the Exportation of our *Wooll* fully Manufactured to *Turky*, *Italy*, and again return'd in the aforeſaid *Raw Silk* and *Grograin Yarn*.

That 'tis apparent the great Preference lately and now given to Foreign Wrought Silks and Stuffs, hath Ruined moſt, and ſo diſcouraged all the *Silk-Weavers* and *Throwſters*; for that the *Mercers* of *London* and *Weſtminſter*, finding the Fond Humours of the Female Sex will not be pleaſed or contented without them, though at double the true Value thereof; and unleſs they purchaſe them, though at thoſe Rates, the *Drapers* will deprive them of their Trades, bend all their Care, Eſtates and Credits to Trade therein, and the *Engliſh Weavers* and *Throwſters* are thereby Undone and Ruined.

That theſe Manufacturers of *London*, for ſome time paſt, could find no Ways to preſerve their Poor from Starving, but by interfering with the Trade of *Norwich*, and other Woollen Manufacturers, except in that Branch of *Grograin Yarn*, which alwayes was, and chiefly is, the principal Return of our Coarſe Engliſh Wooll-Cloths fully Manufactured, and by Winding, Doubling, Twiſting, Weaving, Dying, Dreſſing, and Callendering thereof, doth give vaſt Imployment to multitudes both of Men, Women and Children; as hath been made plainly appear before this Honourable Houſe, and ſhall again, if required.

That he which wears a *Hair-Camblet* Cloak or Coat, *Hair-Prunelloe* or *Camblet* Gown, Advanceth the great Intereſt of *England* in the Conſumption of our own Wooll, with all the Advantage of its ſeveral Manufacturies, and the like in the Return of Raw *Grograin Yarn*, as aforeſaid; whereas he that wears a Cloak, Sute, or Coat, or pleads in a Gown of above Fourteen Shillings *per* Yard, bought in *Blackwell-Hall*, **Conſumes not One Dram of Engliſh Wooll.**

Therefore 'tis Humbly Hoped this Honourable Houſe will not Prohibit the Wearing of Hair Stuffs, in regard the Manufacturers thereof have no other Branch of the Weaving Trade to Imploy themſelves for their Support and Livelyhood.

The CASE of the Inhabitants of *Guernſey*, *Jerſey*, *Alderney*, and *Sark*; and ſome REASONS humbly offer'd to the Conſideration of the Honourable *Houſe of Commons*, for an Amendment of a ſmall Part of the Bill for the Encouragement of the *Silk* Manufactures of this Kingdom, and for taking off ſeveral Duties on Merchandizes exported, and for reducing the Duties upon *Beaver* Skins, *Pepper*, *Mace*, *Cloves*, and *Nutmegs*, imported.

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THE ſaid Iſlands are Part of his Majeſty's ancient Dutchy of *Normandy*, and the Inhabitants are not repreſented in Parliament; but in expreſs Conſideration of their conſtant, ſteady and firm Loyalty and Fidelity to the *Engliſh* Crown, and the Services done by them thereto, have had large Privileges granted and confirmed to them by many Charters of His Majeſty's Royal Anceſtors, under the Great Seal, as well as by Act of this preſent Parliament; one of which Privileges is to import hither Goods, Wares and Merchandizes of their own Growth, Produce, or Manufacture, Cuſtom free.

In Conſequence of thoſe Privileges, no Officers of the Cuſtoms are eſtabliſhed in the ſaid Iſlands: And altho' it has been ſome Times attempted to ſend ſuch Officers thither, and Applications for that Purpoſe properly made to the Crown (whoſe Prerogative it's humbly conceived to be to appoint Officers in the ſaid particular Iſlands,) yet the Inhabitants have not Cuſtom houſe Officers fixed upon them. But on the contrary, Her late Majeſty, by Order in Council, of *December*, 1709. did, it's hoped, finally ſettle that Matter, and gave the Royal Faith, That after the End of the then *French* War, there ſhould be no Officers of the Cuſtoms in thoſe Iſlands.

As the Crown has not thought fit hitherto to ſettle Officers there, the Parliament hath not, by any Act, directed that Officers of the Cuſtoms ſhould be eſtabliſhed in the ſaid Iſlands, but hath left thoſe Matters, which in other Places are done by Cuſtom-houſe Officers, to the Care of the reſpective Governours, Lieutenant or Deputy-Governours, or Commanders in Chief in the ſaid Iſlands, Perſons of Honour and Fortune, and Perſons entruſted by the Crown with the Government and Defence of thoſe valuable Iſlands, and conſequently more proper to be entruſted in thoſe Affairs, than an ordinary Cuſtom-houſe Officer under a ſmall Salary.

By a Bill now depending before this Honourable Houſe, *For Encouragement of the Silk Manufactures of this Kingdom*, &c. ſeveral Sums of Money are to be paid to the Exporter of the *Britiſh* Manufactures therein mentioned, upon Security being firſt given, that ſuch Goods ſhall not be re-landed in *Great-Britain*; which Securities are to be diſcharged for ſuch of the ſaid Goods as ſhall be ſhipped for *Ireland*, *Guernſey*, *Jerſey*, *Alderney*, *Sark*, or *Man* by a Certificate that they were there landed, to be ſign'd by the proper Officer or Officers of his Majeſty's Cuſtoms.

The ſaid Inhabitants humbly pray, That ſo much of the ſaid Bill as directs the Certificates to be ſigned by an Officer of the Cuſtoms, in Guernſey, Jerſey, Alderney, *and* Sark, *may be amended; and inſtead thereof, that the Certificates for thoſe Iſlands may be ſigned by the reſpective Governours, Lieutenant or Deputy-Governours, or Commanders in Chief there; and they offer the following*

REASONS *for this propoſed Amendment.*

1. They have no Officers of the Cuſtoms to ſign ſuch Certificates there, ſo muſt not export the *Britiſh* Manufactures in the Bill mentioned, becauſe the Securities required upon ſuch Exportation muſt inevitably be forfeited for want of proper Certificates to diſcharge them.

2. If that Part of the Bill, deſired to be amended, ſhould paſs as it is into a Law, and hinder theſe Iſlanders from exporting the ſaid Manufactures, it will deprive them of the Advantages, which by the ſame Bill their Fellow-Subjects of *Ireland*, and the *Iſle of Man*, (nay Foreigners) will be entitled to.

3. It will in ſome Meaſure defeat the whole Scope and Intention of the Bill, which is to encourage the Exportation of the Manufactures; whereas this would rather diſcourage the Exportation, eſpecially to the ſaid Iſlands.

4. If the Bill ſhould paſs without the deſired Amendment, it may poſſibly be conſtrued to import, that Cuſtom-houſe Officers muſt be ſent to the ſaid Iſlands; which might ſeem to interfere with the Prerogative of the Crown, to whom alone Applications have hitherto been made for ſending Cuſtom-houſe Officers thither; and it would manifeſtly deſtroy the aforementioned Order of Council, which directs that no Officers ſhould be there after the End of the late *French* War.

5. The Perſons propoſed to ſign the Certificates for the ſaid Iſlands, inſtead of Cuſtom houſe Officers, are Gentlemen of great Honour, Integrity and Fortune, already entruſted with ſuch Affairs by his Majeſty, by ſeveral Acts of Parliament, by Act of this preſent Parliament, and entruſted with the Government and Defence of theſe Iſlands.

The Order of Council of the 25*th* of *December*, 1709 directs the Governour or Lieutenant Governour of theſe Iſlands (not Cuſtom houſe Officers, tho' there were ſuch there during that War) together with the Bailiff and Jurats, to take Care that the Acts of Navigation, and for prohibiting Commerce with *France*, were put in Execution; and that they ſhould ſign Certificates of the Landing of ſuch Goods as were yearly allowed for the Supply of the Iſlands, to be returned hither for the Diſcharge of the Securities here given; and alſo to atteſt the Growth and Manufacture of the Goods exported from thence hither: Which Goods (the Order ſays) by Virtue of the Charters and Privileges granted by Her Majeſty's Predeceſſors to the ſaid Iſlands, do paſs Cuſtom free; and alſo to adminiſter the uſual Oath requiſite for the Truth and Certainty of the ſaid Matters, as they had to that Time done.

The Act of Parliament, 12 *Car* II. for prohibiting the Exportation of Wool, entruſts the Governours of *Jerſey* and *Guernſey*, or their Deputies, with granting Licences to the Inhabitants of *Jerſey*, *Guernſey*, *Alderney* and *Sark*, for the Exporting from hence thither of the Quantity of Wool yearly allowed them. It alſo entruſts the ſaid Governours, or their Deputies, with the taking Bonds to His Majeſty's Uſe, for the Landing of ſuch Wool in the ſaid Iſlands.

The

The Act of Parliament, 1 *William* and *Mary*, for better preventing the Exportation of Wool, alſo entruſts them with the ſame Powers relating to a farther Quantity of Wool thereby allowed to the ſaid Iſlands.

The Act of this preſent Parliament, 3 *Georgij*, for continuing the Duties on Malt, *&c.* recites, That the Inhabitants of *Jerſey*, *Guernſey*, *Alderney* and *Sark*, have always been allowed, and it Enacts that they ſhall and may ſtill be allowed, to import hither the Goods, Wares, and Merchandizes of the Growth, Produce or Manufacture of thoſe Iſles, upon Certificates from the reſpective Governours, Lieutenant or Deputy-Governours, or Commanders in Chief for the Time being, and Oaths before the Magiſtrates of the ſaid Iſlands of *Jerſey* and *Guernſey* reſpectively, that the ſame were of the Growth, Produce or Manufacture of the ſaid Iſlands.

Nay farther, the very Bill, at preſent before the Houſe, directs in Caſe of Exportation of the Manufactures therein mention'd, to any foreign Port or Place (where it's ſuppoſed the Government has no Officers of the Cuſtoms) that then the Securities ſhall be diſcharged upon a Certificate of their being Landed there, under the Hand and Seal of the Chief Magiſtrate in ſuch (Foreign) Port or Place, or under the Hands and Seals of known *Britiſh* Merchants, then being at ſuch Port or Place.

For all which Reaſons, and as the propoſed Amendment will only make this Bill agreeable to all the other Acts of Parliament that have been paſſed relating to the ſaid Iſlands; Whereas if the Bill be not amended, it may claſh with His Majeſty's particular Prerogative in the ſaid Iſlands, overturn that Settlement properly made by the Crown in 1709 tend to force Cuſtom-houſe Officers upon the ſaid Iſlands, contrary to the ſaid Settlement, and to the great Prejudice and Ruin of theſe declared Loyal Inhabitants of the ſaid Iſlands;

It is humbly hoped the Honourable Houſe of Commons will agree to the propoſed Amendment.

N. B. The Words of the Amendment humbly propoſed, are as follows,

In Folio 3. *of the* Bill, *at the laſt Line, after the Word* [*Certificates*] *to inſert*,

(Hereby directed to be brought for Goods ſo Entred for, or Landed in the Iſlands of *Guernſey*, *Jerſey*. *Alderney* and *Sark*, as aforeſaid, ſhall be ſigned by the reſpective Governours, Lieutenant or Deputy Governours, or Commanders in Chief in the ſaid Iſlands for the Time being, and the other Certificates hereby directed to be brought.)

THE

CASE

OF the INHABITANTS of

Guernſey, *Jerſey*, *Alderney* and *Sark*.

Together with

Some REASONS humbly offered to the Honourable *Houſe of Commons*, for the Amendment of a ſmall Part of the BILL, *for the Encouragement of the Silk Manufactures of this Kingdom*, &c.

K Spitalfields 116. m. 13. 118

A LETTER *from a Weaver in* Spittle-Fields *to a* Turky *Merchant of* London; *on the Subject of the Throwſters* BILL, *now depending before the Houſe of* COMMONS.

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SIR,

THO' the Subject of this Letter may ſeem to reſpect the *Throwſters*, rather than the *Turkey Merchants*, and ſo it ſhould ſeem more proper to be directed to a *Thrower*, than an *Importer of Silk*, yet I chuſe to apply myſelf to you on ſeveral Accounts, *viz.*

I. Becauſe the Throwers, a ſmall, and, till raiſed by the Weavers, a very inconſiderable Body, ſeem to be no farther concerned in this Affair, than juſt as they are puſhing at their own private and immediate Intereſt; which, it's apparent, they proſecute without the leaſt Regard to the publick Good of the Trade, or of their Country in general; ſomewhat like the Coffin-makers, that wiſh'd for a Plague in the City, that their Fraternity might have a very *good Trade*.

II. Becauſe, tho' they ſhew very little Plot in any other Part of their Letter, yet, in this, they affect ſome Craft, *viz.* That they would artfully concern the *Turkey* Merchants in their Deſign; flattering themſelves, *that you* ſhould be ignorant enough, *not to ſee*, that what they aim at, would ruin, not us the Manufacturers only, but the whole Silk Manufacture itſelf, and the *Turky* Trade with it by conſequence.

III. Becauſe 'tis to no Purpoſe to talk to People who cannot ſee that what they are doing (ſhould they obtain it) would deſtroy their own Trade in the End, as well as ours; and therefore I chooſe to apply myſelf to Gentlemen who have ſome Underſtanding, and who are able to judge of Reaſon and of Commerce.

IV. Becauſe all they have yet offered in Publick, in Defence of the Steps they have taken, ſeems to have ſo little of Senſe in it, and really has ſo little of Truth in it, that 'tis fitter to be laugh'd at, than reply'd to; But according to *Solomon*, to ſome People we ſhould anſwer, *and anſwer not*.

The Writer of the Letter mentioned above, unhappily grants, That the Weavers are a *great Body*; that the Manufacture we carry on is *Conſiderable*; that we employ a great many of the Poor, and that we have met with very *great Indulgence* from the Legiſlature: All which is very true; and I might add, *is almoſt all the Truth he has ventur'd to tell us.*

Give me leave, Sir, to add a little more Truth to it, *which he has omitted*, *viz.* That this Indulgence which, as he ſays, the Legiſlature have ſhewed us, *has not been abuſed*; that, as was alledged by us when we ſought it, that Indulgence has greatly improv'd the Silk Manufacture, and enabled us to give Employment to Multitudes of the Poor who wanted Bread before, and among the reſt, to *theſe very grateful Throwſters*, who now in return, being grown richer, would (to puſh their private Intereſts) load the Trade with Difficulties, perplex the whole Commerce, and diſtreſs their Benefactors.

They tell us in one Article, That *the Trade is decay'd*, and the Poor out of Employ, and yet own in the next Line, that we employ a great Number of Poor, who would otherwiſe want Bread. When they will pleaſe to explain and reconcile thoſe Contradictions, we know not; or how they will make it out, that the Poor *are Employ'd*, and *not Employ'd* at the ſame time; *But ſuch Blunders are ſmall Matters with them.*

They tell us 'tis ſtrange, that the Weavers ſhould Petition for the Importation of a foreign Manufacture, and deſtroy a conſiderable one of our own.

It is certain this would be very ſtrange, that the Weavers ſhould deſire to deſtroy the Manufactures they live by, and the Aſſertion would have a great Force in it, and do mighty well to move the Houſe of Commons in their Favour, if it were not for one ſmall Misfortune in it, namely, That *there is not one Word of Truth in it.*

The Weavers have ſhewn their Concern in the Improvement of the Silk Manufacture, by many known Examples; particularly by raiſing it to ſuch a Magnitude as it now appears in, and that from ſo ſmall a Beginning, and with ſo many Difficulties and Diſcouragements as they have met with; eſpecially, from the Importation of the moſt perfect Fabrick of wrought Silks from Abroad, and from the want of proper Materials at Home; and 'tis much more ſtrange, that they ſhould be charg'd with deſtroying the Manufacture, than that they ſhould Petition *to be allowed ſuch Materials as alone can ſupport it.*

The

A7.

The *Throwers* have now avowedly petition'd for depriving the *Weavers* of thoſe very Goods, without which their Trade cannot be carried on, or the Fabrick of the Manufacture be finiſhed; let the World judge who are the *Deſtroyers* of a conſiderable Manufacture, *They, or the Weavers.*

The *Throwers* have not, indeed, ventur'd to ſay they are able to ſupply us with the Materials they would Prohibit, or that the Manufacture can be compleated without them: *The only Piece of Modeſty they can yet be charged with.*

It is very remarkable, That the Throwers acknowledge the Weavers former Petitions were heard by the Parliament, becauſe they were in favour of our own Manufactures, and tended to the Employment of our own Poor, and the Weavers ſay they hope now for the ſame Regard from the very ſame Conſiderations.

The Argument uſed about the *Indian* Silks, and where 'tis aſſerted, That *if it be our Intereſt to Import Silk* ready Thrown, *it will be of equal Advantage to Import them* ready Woven, we acknowledge to be perfectly Incomprehenſible, and we muſt leave it to the ſublime Underſtanding of the Writer of that Letter to Unriddle it; referring it only to a parallel Caſe, *viz.* the *Iriſh Yarn*; in which Caſe, becauſe we find the Legiſlature thought it for our Advantage to admit the *Iriſh* Yarn to be Imported, we muſt, *it ſeems*, grant, it would be of equal Advantage to have our Serges, Stuffs and other Manufactures, made in *Ireland*, and Imported here ready Wrought.

It might come of courſe here, to ſay ſomething to their Attempt, of concerning the *Turky* Merchants in favour of their Petition; as if the Importation of the *Italian* Thrown Silk leſſened the Importation of *Turky* Silk; whereas it is evident, the Importation of *Turky* Silk has not been leſſened: If the Conſumption has been abated, the Throwſters were beſt able to give a Reaſon for that, and we refer you to them.

But while they think to cajole the *Turky Merchants* into an approving their Petition, let them firſt clear themſelves of their having for ſome Years, decry'd the *Turky* Silk as Imported, worſe in Quality than formerly; declining it publickly, pretending they could not work it, and buying ſeveral other Silks in the Room of it, as will appear by the Encreaſe of the Importation of all thoſe Sorts of Silk within that Time; ſo that while they make their Court to the *Turky Merchants* in appearance, and to ſerve their Occaſion, none have been greater Enemies to the *Turky Trade*, and to the Conſumption of the *Turky* Silk.

I might mention their affirming, That the Importation of the *Turky* Silk will be loſt, if the Thrown Silk from *Italy* be allowed; but as they only ſay ſo, and that with a ſurprizing Aſſurance, without offering the leaſt Proof of it, or any Reaſons to make it probable, the leſs Notice need be taken of it: We muſt refer you to your own Experience, and to the *Turky* Trade itſelf, which is full of Demonſtrations to the contrary.

The *Italian* Thrown Silk has been always Imported into *England*, and I leave it to you whether the Importation of the *Turky* Silk has declined or no.

The *French*, who underſtand the Intereſt of Trade as well as moſt Nations, and purſue it as well, yet, notwithſtanding they not only Import a great Quantity of Raw Silk every Year from *Turky*, and, which is ſtill more, raiſe an immenſe Quantity of Silk in their own Country, and of their own Growth, they never offer'd to Prohibit the *Italian* Thrown Silk of any Sorts; but on the contrary, Import them freely: The Reaſon of which is evidently the ſame which I have alledged here, namely, That they cannot carry on their Manufactures without them.

I might have inquired here, into the wild Inconſiſtency of this whole Proceeding of the Throwers, and how evidently they are laying a kind of a Plot againſt themſelves; as if ruining, or even ſinking and leſſening the *Silk Manufacture* would not ruin and ſink the *Throwing* alſo, in the End; or, that They could be employ'd when the Weavers could not Work: But they are not the firſt Mad-men in Buſineſs, that, having loſt their Trading Senſes, have turn'd *Felo de ſe*, and been acceſſary to their own Deſtruction.

I am, SIR,

Your moſt humble Servant,

A WEAVER.

Extracts of Letters from Livorno, *dated the* 13*th of* March, 1715-16, *from Meſſ.* How Gould *and* Gott, *Factors there to a Merchant in* London, *relating to* Turkey *Raw Silk.*

THE *French* again this Year have paid ſtrange Prices in the *Levant*, whence ſome will come hither directly, and others may reaſonably be expected *Via Marſeilles*, ſince the *French* Market will ſcarce conſume what goes thither. We are endeavouring to ſatisfy your Deſire to know what Quantity of Silk came from *Marſeilles* here laſt Year, and coming to a Knowledge thereof e're Sealing, ſhall adviſe you in Poſtſcript.

Leghorn, the 24th of *April*, 1716.

TILL now we could not get the Particulars of the *Turkey* Silk arrived here from *France* laſt Year, which we encloſe, being 337 Bales of all Sorts, which you may Compute about 500 Bales of 300 *l.* each, ſince, to ſave Duties, they uſually put two Ballots into one.

An Account of Silk brought from Marſeilles *to* Leghorn *in the Year* 1715.

1715			Ardaſs	Arda-ſine.	Sher-baſee.	Tripoli	Cyprus
January	18	By the Bark of Captain *J. A. Bandous* Bales.	0	0	2	0	0
	25	By the Bark of Captain *Vitoria Simian*	0	2	6	0	0
		By the Bark of Captain *Francis Guydon*	0	5	39	0	0
	28	By the Bark of Captain *Francis Imbert*	0	0	3	0	0
February	7	By the Polacco of Captain *Rouband*	0	3	2	0	0
March	4	By the Bark of Captain *Joſeph Martin*	0	4	7	0	0
	25	By the Bark of Captain *Joſeph Bandeuf*	0	0	29	0	6
	27	By the Bark of Captain *John Bandeuf*	0	0	14	20	30
	30	By the Bark of Captain *Francis Imbert*	0	0	2	0	15
April	3	By the Bark of Captain *John Artand*	0	0	9	0	0
	8	By the Bark of Captain *Francis Gueidon*	0	0	0	4	17
	25	By the Bark of Captain *John Anthony Bandeuf*	5	0	6	0	0
	30	By the Bark of Captain *Joſeph Martin*	7	0	10	0	0
May	11	By the Bark of Captain *Joſeph Bandeuf*	0	10	0	10	0
		By the Bark of Captain *Francis Imbert*	1	0	0	0	0
	27	By the Ship of Captain *James Boaſt*	0	0	1	0	14
June	1	By the Bark of Captain *John Artand*	0	0	1	0	L
	12	By the Bark of Captain *Francis Guydon*	0	0	2	0	1
September	18	By the Bark of Captain *Francis Guydon*	4	0	3	0	0
October	10	By the Bark of Captain *John Bandeuf*	1	0	4	0	0
	12	By the Bark of Captain *Joſeph Martin*	0	0	6	0	0
	30	By the Bark of Captain *Vitorio Simian*	0	0	2	0	1
November	4	By the Bark of Captain *Peter Imbert*	0	0	5	5	0
	5	By the Bark of Captain *Francis Guydon*	0	0	4	0	6
December	12	By the Bark of Captain *Luis Laurens*	3	0	5	0	0
		Total of Bales of Silk	21	24	162	39	91

The Amount of the Bales of Silk come from *Marſeilles* to *Leghorn*, upon *French* Ships, during the Year 1715, *viz.*

Bales— 21 of Ardaſs,
24 of Ardaſine,
162 of Sherbafee,
39 of Tripoli,
91 of Cyprus.

337 Bales in all. But it is to be noted, that among them are many double Bales; that is, two of the Bales which uſually come from the *Levant* to *Marſeilles*, bound up into one Bale.

Extracts of Letters AND ACCOUNTS Of *Turkey* Raw Silk Exported from *Marſeilles* to *Leghorn* in the Year 1715.

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THE CASE OF THE

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Silkmen, Throwſters, Dyers, Twiſters, *and* Winders, *in and about the City of* London, *on Behalf of Themſelves and a great Number of Poor, Employed in the Manufacturing of* Raw Silk *and* Mohair Yarn.

WHEREAS the Manufactures of *Raw Silk* and *Mohair Yarn*, are of great Advantage to this Kingdom, not only by promoting the National Trade into *Turkey*, but by profitably Employing great Numbers of Poor Labourers therein : It has therefore been formerly, and it's Hop'd, may ſtill be Eſteemed the Intereſt of this Nation, to give all reaſonable Encouragement to the Conſumption of theſe Commodities, which are the Product of our Woollen Manufacture.

Upon this Account, a Statute was made in the Tenth Year of the Reign of King *William* the Third, to Prohibit the making of Buttons with *Cloth*, *Serge*, *&c.* which has ever ſince occaſioned a great Expence both of *Silk* and *Mohair Yarn* ; and thereby the Poor Manufacturers have been maintained.

But the Deſign and Intention of that Act, being evaded by the late Practice of making Button Holes of *Cloth*, *Serge*, *&c.* The Conſumption of *Silk* and *Mohair Yarn*, is as much leſſened, as it was when the Buttons were made of *Cloth*, *&c.* and the Holes wrought, which is the occaſion that ſuch large Quantities of thoſe Commodities, lye both on the Merchants, and our Hands Invendible.

The Conſequences whereof muſt be very Pernicious to the Trade in theſe Commodities, if not remedied by this *Honourable Houſe*, for this has for ſome time paſt been a growing Evil ; it being computed that the Conſumption of a great Quantity both of *Silk* and *Mohair Yarn*, has been Annually Leſſened, ſince this Cuſtom of making Button Holes with Cloth, *&c.* was Introduced.

THE CASE OF THE

Silkmen, Throwsters, Dyers, Twisters, and *Winders*, in and about *London*, on behalf of Themselves and a great Number of Poor, Employed in the Manufacturing of *Raw Silk* and *Mohair Yarn*.

THE

CASE

Of Great Numbers of

WEAVERS,

Freemen, and Lawful Workmen, now Working to the

Royal Luteſtring Company.

WHO from a deep Senſe of the Impending Calamities which will conſequently Inſue, in caſe the *Luteſtring Company* ſhould Diſſolve their Stock, or their Enemy prevaile againſt their Patint, do acknowledg the Miſeries which we were in before the ſaid *Company*, by their Joynt Stock, and Indefatigable Kindneſs, did Relieve and Imploy us; when our Condition was ſuch, That we had neither *Work* nor *Money* to Buy *Bread*, for Us, our Wives, and Children; which was the Deplorable State of great multitudes, who do thankfully acknowledge their timely Relief to their half Starved Families; This *Manufacture* being a continual ſupply from time to time, when Work is to be had nowhere elſe, which has been manifeſt of Late, Namely, when the *Turkey-Fleet* was Damnified by the *French*, and when it Suffered by Storm the Year following; as alſo after the Death of Her Late *Majeſty* of Ever Bleſſed *Memory*.

And having received ſuch good Earneſts of the Benignity, and well meaning of the ſaid Company, as alſo of a Laſting Livelihood, we cannot but with great Grief behold the Troubles which the ſaid *Company* with us labours under; wherein it plainly appears, That it is not the *Making* the ſaid Silk theſe *Men* aime at, but to Expell the *Making of them in England*; for they will not *Make* them Themſelves, as ſome of them have Confeſſed.

For it is *Manifeſt*, That the Cauſe of the Trouble the Company meets with, proceeds from the *French*, who, by large Treats, have Engaged a few *Engliſh Maſters*, of Small Stocks and Credit, to eſpouſe their Intereſt, as ſome of them have Acknowledged to us as we can prove.

And having been ſad Spectators of this Decay of Trade, and want of Imployment (procured by *French*, *Strangers*, and *Intruders*) and being too Senſible that the like will follow with reſpect to the *Alamoads*, if the Company have not the Sole Power of Protecting ſo Rich a *Manufacture* by their Joynt Stock and Knowledge of Trade, we ſhall then be Reduced to the ſame *Miſery* out of which (to the never to be forgotten praiſe of the ſaid Company) we have been ſo Eminently delivered.

But it ſeemeth that another Reaſon that ſome *Maſters* appear againſt the Company is, becauſe they cannot Opreſs their Poor Workmen as they have uſed, when they might have their Choice of a Hundred Weavers at their Doore every Day; this Manufacture being a continual Refuge for the Indigent and Opreſſed.

Wherefore it cannot be expected, That ſuch Men ſhould Imploy and Succour us, who, in difficult Times, have no Imployment for their Apprentices: Who (to their Eternal Infamy) have brought the Curſe of the Preſent Age upon them, by bringing up ſo unreaſonable a Cuſtom among us, to Work a Month, or Six Weeks, to Dreſs up our Looms without any Conſideration, during which time, their Poor Workmen have been ſo deeply Indepted to their *Maſters*, and others, that to avoid the rigour of their Creditors, they have been enforced to betake themſelves to Priviledg Places, where the *Royal Luteſtring Company* do alſo Imploy and Succour them. All which, the 29*th* of *January* laſt, was admitted to be True, at the Barr of the *Lords Houſe*; and is offered to be Prov'd again if need be.

THE CASE OF THE *WEAVERS* Now Working to the *Royal Luteſtring Company.*

816. m 13.
K London, City of 122

The Caſe of the Weavers,

Who are Petioners, to be relieved againſt a Clauſe in the

COALE ACT.

Company of.
240

THAT *Peter du Cloux*, pretending himſelf to be the Firſt Maker of *Alamodes* and *Luſtrings* in *England*, did, with *Clowdeſly* and *Sherrard*, procure a Patent for the ſole making thereof, as a new Invention. 24. *November.* 1688.

The Patentees made no uſe of the Grant by the ſpace of Three Years, until they ſold the ſame to certain Merchants-Traders with *France*, and ſome Mercers who got themſelves Incorporated in the Year 1691. by the Name of the *Royal Luſtring Company.* 1691.

In the Year 1694. (A Clauſe being incerted in the Act of Tonnage and Poundage, to hinder the Importation of *French* Goods, for encouraging our *Engliſh* Manufacturys) the *Luſtring Company*, under the Umbrage of that Clauſe, cauſed ſeveral Quantities of *Alamodes* and *Luſtrings*, made by others, to be Seized; which appearing to be made in *England*, were reſtored to the Owners, who ſold the ſame without Interruption. 1694.

In the Year 1695. the *Luſtring Company* did write a Letter to the Company of *Weavers*, which the *Weavers Company* anſwered as followeth.

GENTLEMEN, Weavers Hall, Decemb. 5*th.* 1695

THE Company *of* Weavers *would have anſwered your Letter ſooner, had not the extraordinary Buſineſs that attends all Companys, but eſpecially this, at that ſeaſon of the Year, prevented them.*

Therefore, in Anſwer to yours, you may be pleaſed to underſtand, That the Company *of* Weavers *do wiſh the* Royal Luſtring Company, *all the good Succeſs imaginable, in the making of* Alamodes *and* Luſtrings, *ſo far as the making thereof doth not interfere with, or abridge their Members of their Antient Rights and Priviledges, which this* Company *always had, and now have a tender Reſpect unto, and are, as much as in them lies, obliged to maintain and defend them in.*

As it is not obvious that the many Advantages you daily boaſt of to have procured to this Nation, are true, ſo on the other hand, ſome pretend they can prove your chiefeſt Advantage is by ſelling of ordinary Goods at a great price; which, if ſo, is too apparently a Prejudice to the Publick, as well as a Diſgrace to the Manufacture, and that all the People employed by you they would employ (if not obſtructed) with greater Advantage to the Nation, and to the perticular Perſons they would ſo employ.

And altho the Company *heretofore apprehended that the beſt way of carrying on that Manufacture, was by a joynt Stock; and therefore, ſuch of them as then acted, might give their own Conſents thereto, and wiſh you good Succeſs therein: Yet they never intended, by any Conſent of theirs, to abridge any of their Members from making the ſame on their own Acoounts (and eſpecially ſuch as could prove (as many pretend to do) an anticedent Right (and that they had attained to the full Knowledge in the Art both of making and* Luſtring *the ſame, many Years before the paſſing of your Patent) which is evident from the Clauſe the* Company *cauſed to be Incerted in your Charter: And you well know, that they declared, at the paſſing thereof, they conld not give away the Rights of their Members.*

'Tis preſumed you well remember you formerly acquainted the Company, *That you had Arreſted ſome of their Members, for making* Alamodes *and* Luſtrings *contrary (as you pretended) to your Patent, upon which 'twas expected that a fair Tryal would have enſued, touching the Validity thereof, and thereby have put a Period to the Differences between your ſelves and their Members; but your declining the ſame, have given their Members good Grounds to conclude your Patent was not obtained on ſuch true and valid Reaſons as were able to abide the Deciſion of a Court of Judicature, and there, for ſupport thereof, you were induced (with the like Allegations you formerly uſed) to apply yourſelves in that private manner to the laſt Parliament, for an Act to debar their Members, from ſelling that, which you know neither your Patent nor Charter can hinder them from making.*

The Company *are as willing as you that all Differences and Miſunderſtandings ſhould be laid aſide, and that the* Manufacture *may be encouraged and increaſed, but do not think it proper to lay their Hands to the Plow by being intereſted in your* Companys Stock *at any Value: But as to their perticular Members, they may act therein as they think fit.*

GENTLEMEN,

The Company *cannot let this Oppertunity ſlip, without puting you in mind how contrary you act againſt your Charter, not only by preventing our Members from making* Alamodes

and

and Luſtrings, *but alſo, by your hitherto employing chiefly ſuch as are not Members of their* Company. *And ſince by your late Advertiſement in the* Gazett *you would ſeem to reform in the latter; yet they could heartily wiſh (for your own Credits) you had performed what thereby you declared you would do, and not have given (as they too much fear you have done) not only ſuch cauſe of Complaint, in this perticular, as is daily made againſt you, but alſo much Suſpition that you never intended any more thereby, other than to give an Umbrage to ſome unreaſonable Application for your own Advantages, tho to the prejudice of the Publick.*

If therefore you would ſincerely manifeſt yourſelves to be for the real Benefit and Advantage of the Nation, and deſire that all Differences between the Members of the Company *and yourſelves may amicably be Compoſed; 'tis the Opinion of this* Company, *you can make no better Demonſtration thereof than by purſuing the true Intention of your Charter, in permiting the Members of this* Company *quietly to make and diſpoſe of this* Manufacture *without any interruption; and by taking ſuch effectual Care that you employ none, for the time to come, but ſuch only as are Members of this* Company. *By which you will obtain the good Will of the whole Nation, and among them, perticularly of* Gentlemen, your moſt humble Servants.

Caſe Shewell, *Clerk to the Worſhipful Company of Weavers,* Lond.

The *Weavers* had reaſon to write as aforeſaid, for that Silks for Hoods and Scarves were made time out of mind in *England*, which are of the ſame make and ſort of *Alamodes* and *Luſtrings* as now paſs by that Name: And ſeveral *Weavers* made ſuch to a great Degree of Perfection, before Letters Patents for the ſole making thereof, as a new Invention, were procured: And by *Magna Charta*, no Freeman is to be deveſted of his Freehold, by any ptetending a Right thereto, without legal Tryal and Condemnation, and every Branch of a Mans Trade is his Freehold, and none by force of the Satute of Monopolys 21 *Jacob.* I. *Cap.* 23. can pretend a Right to the ſole making or ſelling of any thing that any other could make or do before the Pretender to it. And the Petitioners being able to prove that ſeveral *Weavers* made *Alamodes* and *Luſtrings* in *England* long before, and at the time of the Patent, were and are ſtill ready to try the Validity thereof: And further, the Petitioners can prove, That the Patentees, as well as the Petitioners, gave over making ſuch Goods in *England*, by reaſon the Markets here were over ſtocked, until Trade with *France* was prohibited. And after a Prohibition, the Petitioners did fall to work briskly, and not any have diſcontinued but out of Fear to be ruined by the *Luſtring Company*; who making uſe of a Clauſe incerted in the *Coale Act*, for hindring the Importation of *French* Goods, would hinder above Ten Thouſand free Maſter Weavers to make *Alamodes* and *Luſtrings*, and conſequently would hinder above a Hundred Thouſand Perſons to Work; for the Maſter Weavers, their Journey Men, Servants, Apprentices, and others they imploy and depend on them, are ſo many at leaſt in number.

If all *Weavers* in *England* be at Liberty to Work, they and the *Luſtring* Companys Journeymen Weavers, will ſupply *England* with *Alamodes* and *Luſtrings*; and deſtroy the Trade of *Lyons*; which the *Luſtring* Company alone cannot do, for none of the *Luſtring* Company are *Weavers*; but Captain *Le Keux*, and Mr. *John Blondell*, and the Petitioners, are not for hindring the *Luſtring* Company to Trade.

Therefore the Petioners hope the *Luſtring* Company ſhall in no wiſe be ſuffered to hinder them to work and buy Silks where they can have the ſame beſt and cheapeſt: Well knowing *London* affords Merchants enough that Trades to *Italy*, who will ſupply the *Engliſh* Weavers plentifully.

As for Smugling, that's Merchants and Traders Buſineſs, and not the Buſineſs of Workers and Makers of Goods in *England*; therefore all Weavers, not in Confederacy with the *Luſtring* Company, propoſe and have invented a Mark to be woven in the Piece, to be cut off ſo indented, while the Piece is in the Loom, and before it be cut off from the Warp, that it cannot be counterfeited by any Smugler; as will be demonſtrated to this Honourable Houſe.

28 *Janu.* 1695. And by reaſon the *Luſtring* Company repreſented the Petitioners to be headed by, or with *French* Faction: And that the Majority of Weavers was for the *Luſtring* Company, the Petitioners deſired a Common Hall to be called, to try whether it was ſo or not, and One Hundred and Fifty *Engliſh* Weavers appeared for the Petitioners, againſt only Five for the *Luſtring* Company, which plainly ſhewed that the *Luſtring* Company and their Journeymen Weavers, who are but few in Number, would oppreſs many Maſter Weavers, their Journeymen, Servants, and Apprentices, *&c.* Whoſe Number is very great.

Therefore Your Petitioners hope to be Relieved by this Honourable Houſe againſt the Clauſe in the Coale Act, *&c.*

The Weavers Anſwer,

K London, City of, Weavers, Company of 241 125 21b. no. 13.

To the OBJECTIONS made by the

LUSTRINGS COMPANY.

Object. THAT Clowdeſly, Sherrad, *and* du Cloux, *as firſt Makers of* Alamodes *and* Luſtrings *in* England, *had the ſole making and vending thereof as a new Invention by Letters Pattents.*

Anſwer. *Silks* were made in *England*, Time out of mind, fit for *Hoods* and *Scarves*, tho not then known by the Name of *Alamodes* and *Luſtrings*: And in the Year 1663 ſeveral Pieces of *Alamodes* and *Luſtrings* were made by ſome Weavers; and others made the ſame about 1670, and in 1684. All before any Patent obtained for the ſame as a new Invention: And they had their *Silks* well dreſſed, as they can give undeniable Evidence of; ſo that by the Satute of Monopoly *21ſt. Jac.* 1. *Cap.* 23. they ought not to be debarred of their Right.

Object. *Before the Pattent*, Alamodes *and* Luſtrings *were made in ſmall Quantities, and not in Perfection, ſo that they were forced to leave off the Making.*

Anſwer. He that can make Two Pieces, can make more; and the Weavers can prove that the ſame was made and dreſſed as well, as the *Luſtrings Company* made any.

The Cauſe why the Weavers left off making them was, the great Importation of *French Goods*, and for the ſame Reaſon the Patentees did forbear to make *Alamodes* and *Luſtrings* alſo. After the Prohibition of *French Goods*, Weavers, as well as the *Luſtrings Company* fell to work, and the *Luſtrings Company* did not moleſt any Weaver until under the Umbrage of the Act of *Tunnage* and *Poundage*, the *Luſtrings Company* in 1694. cauſed many Pieces to be ſeized, as being *French Goods*; but upon Affidavit, that they were made in *England*, they were reſtored to the Owners, who ſold the ſame without any Interruption. And after that the Weavers were not moleſted, until a Clauſe was Inſerted in the *Coal Act* for the Prohibition of *French Goods* to be Imported; whereby the *Luſtrings Company* have the Sealing and Marking *Alamodes* and *Luſtrings*, made by them in *England*, and gives not the *Luſtrings Company* any Power to Mark or Seal the Weaver's Goods; wherefore refuſing to Mark and Seal the Weaver's *Alamodes* and *Luſtrings* made in *England*, they are deprived of their Rights and Liberties.

Object. *The* Luſtring Company *hath* 600 *Looms at work, and imploys ſeveral Weavers.*

Anſwer. There was, Nine or Ten Years ago, Twenty Thouſand Pieces of *Alamodes* and *Luſtrings* imported yearly from *France* into *England*; and the *Luſtrings Company* hath made but Nine Thouſand in Four years ſpace, which makes not 3000 Pieces a year: Now, in caſe the Weavers were encouraged, they being above 10000, can ſet, many of them, 20. 30. or 50. Looms at Work, and ſo ſupply *England.*

Object. *The Governors of the Weavers Company have given away their Rights.*

Anſwer. The Court of Aſſiſtants of the Weavers Company, may give away their own Rights to the making of *Alamodes* and *Luſtrings*; but being Governors only, *pro hac vice*, and Truſtees for their Members, they cannot give away their Members Rights: And at a Common-Hall held the *28th.* of *Januray* laſt paſt, it was aſſerted to be the Right of the Weavers to make *Luſtrings* and *Alamodes*, by Majority of about 150. to only Five for the *Luſtrings Company.*

Object. *The* Luſtrings Company *offers to take all Weavers into their Company that will contribute to their joint Stock.*

Anſwer. In that Caſe the Rich Weavers would Monopolize the whole Trade to themſelves, in excluding the poorer ſort of Weavers. And a poor Weaver with Twenty Pounds may ſet a Loom at Work, which will employ his Family; and the Piece being made, will be ready Money, with which, and the Increaſe of the prime Stock, he may imploy more Looms.

Object. *The* Luſtrings Company *exchanges great Quantities of Cloath, manufactured in* England, *for raw* Silk; *and the ſame cannot be carried on without a joint Stock to deſtroy the Trade of* Lion.

Anſwer. In *Lion* they have no joint Stock, but every Weaver is at liberty to buy and ſell at pleaſure. The more Weavers ſell *Alamodes* and *Luſtrings*, the greater Conſumption of *Silks*, and conſequently the Manufactury of Cloath will increaſe as the Manufactory of *Alamodes* and *Luſtrings* increaſes. So that prohibiting the Weavers to work for themſelves, is to diſcourage *Engliſh* Weavers, and encourage the Weavers of *Lion.*

Now, for as much as the Intent of the Clauſe is to Prohibit only *French Goods*, The Weavers propoſe to have all their *Luſtrings* and *Alamodes* Marked and Sealed by the *Luſtrings Company*, at the Weavers own Coſt and Charge, in the Warp before cut off the Loom, and the Mark to be cut off, indented in nature of a Tally, whereof one Part to be kept by ſuch as ſhall be appointed to Mark and Seal their Goods, to direct to the Piece and the Man who made it, and the other to go along with the Piece of *Silk*, to prevent and detect Smugling.

All which is humbly Submited.

To the Objections made by the

LUSTRINGS COMPANY

THE CASE OF THE Italian MERCHANTS.

AS the more Beneficial any Branch of Trade is to the Publick Stock of the Nation, the more ſuch Trade will of Courſe recommend itſelf to the Care and Concern of the Parliament, ſo the Merchants concern'd in the *Italian* Trade cannot but hope they come effectually recommended in their Petition now before the Houſe.

THEY humbly repreſent, that the *Italian* Trade diſtinguiſhes itſelf from moſt of the other Branches of the *Britiſh* Commerce, in its being more particularly profitable to *Great Britain*, in its Exportations, its Importations, and its Navigation.

IN its Exportation, *'tis Gainful*, by ſending Abroad the *Woollen Manufactures*, and other Product of *Great Britain*, in ſuch extraordinary Quantities, as no other Country takes off, for their own immediate Conſumption.

IN its Importation, *'tis Gainful*, by bringing back, in Return for thoſe Woollen Manufactures,

1. THE Raw and Thrown Silk, *but chiefly the Thrown*, which are the Foundation of another Manufacture, uſeful to us, in its Proportion, as our own, becauſe it finds Employment for many Thouſands of our Poor, in making and ſupplying us with thoſe Goods *(Wrought Silks)* which were bought from Foreigners before; and ſaving thereby a very great yearly Treaſure to the Nation.

2. By Importing ſeveral other uſeful Commodities, ſubſervient to our Manufactures, ſuch as Oils, Dye, Stuffs, *&c.*

IN its Navigation, *'tis Gainful*, by employing above One Hundred Sail of Ships Annually, and many of them, by the Act of Navigation, Ships of Force, as well in ſupplying the Commerce immediately from *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, as in the Fiſhery from *New England* and *Newfoundland*. The whole being carry'd on in our own Shipping, and Navigated by our own Seamen.

THE ſaid *Raw and Thrown Silk* being fine Goods, pay ſuch a conſiderable Freight, as without which, the Trade could not be carry'd on by Ships of ſuch Force, or the Act of Navigation be preſerv'd; on both which, the Advantages and Security of the ſaid Trade to this Nation ſo much depends.

THEY humbly obſerve, that the great Exportation of our Woollen Manufactures to *Italy*, as above, depends ſo entirely upon the Returns of the ſaid *Raw and Thrown Silk*, that as the *Conſumption* of the ſaid Silk has *abated in England*, the Exportation of our Woollen Manufactures to *Italy*, have abated in Proportion.

BUT they in the humbleſt Manner repreſent, That the *Conſumption* of the ſaid Silk in *Great Britain* is viſibly abated, by the general and almoſt univerſal Uſe and Wearing of Printed and Painted Callicoes and Linnens, as well thoſe Callicoes Printed at Home, as thoſe Clandeſtinely Imported from *Holland* and *India*, *&c.* and alſo by the Clandeſtine Importation of Foreign Wrought Silks; and that by Conſequence, the Exportation of the ſaid Woollen Manufactures are greatly Injur'd and Leſſen'd by the ſaid Callicoes and Wrought Silks, and will be in great Danger of being utterly Ruin'd and Loſt.

THAT former Parliaments have been ſo ſenſible how Injurious and Deſtructive the Wearing and Uſe of the ſaid Printed and Painted Callicoes and Wrought Silks from the *Indies* was to the Manufacture of *Great Britain*, that an Act was paſs'd upon the Petition of the Manufacturers, about the Year 1700, prohibiting the Wearing and Uſe of all Callicoes Printed and Painted in *India*, as alſo all *Eaſt India* Wrought Silks, and Stuffs made of Silk or Herba, upon the Penalties and Forfeitures mention'd in the ſaid Act. But not foreſeeing that the ſame Callicoes might, in Time to come, be Printed by Imitation in *England*, and the Grievance lying in the Wearing and Uſe of Printed Callicoes, *not in the Place where they ſhould be Printed*, the Trade has been brought into the ſame or worſe Circumſtances of Danger, by the Callicoes Printed at Home, as it was in before by thoſe Imported from *India*.

ALSO under Colour of the Callicoes Printed at Home, ſo much Encouragement has been given to the promiſcuous Wearing of thoſe Printed Abroad, that the Clandeſtine Traders have found Means to fill us with foreign Printed Callicoes, to the infinite Prejudice of Trade, and the further Diſcouragement of the Manufactures.

AND, *which is ſtill worſe*, the ſame Clandeſtine Traders have introduc'd a Practice of entering *Engliſh* Printed Callicoes at the *Cuſtom-Houſe* for Exportation, and fraudulently re-landing the ſame; by which Means thoſe Callicoes are conſum'd at Home, notwithſtanding the Duties are drawn back by Debenture; a Practice attended with unavoidable Perjuries, and other corrupt Practices, to the great Scandal of this Nation; and whereby not only the Fair Traders are greatly abus'd, and the Manufactures injur'd, but the Revenue is likewiſe Leſſen'd, and the Publick Cheated and Impos'd upon.

All which is humbly ſubmitted to this Honourable Houſe.

THE CASE OF THE *Italian* Merchants.

Prince Butler's Tale:

REPRESENTING

The State of the *Wooll-Case*, or the *East-India Case* truly Stated.

The Argument. Part I.

Shews why in Dogrel *Verse this* **Tale**
Was first begun o'r Pot of Ale ;
Shews Rise, *and* Progress *of the Trade*
To India *drove, and* Who *'twas made*
The first steps to our Wooll *Trades ruin,*
And how it prov'd to Folks *undoing* ;
What done to stop its further growth,
And how those Measures *came to nought* ;
How **Golden Fleece** *lay very dead* ;
How Act for Burying *it was made* ;
And how, if we were truly *Wise,*
We should their Trangums *all despise* ;
Our Money *save,* Employ *our Poor,*
From starving *keep, and from our Door* ;
Who then cou'd drink, Some Ale, *Some* Sherry,
And Laugh, *and* Quaff, *and all be merry.*

PROLOGUE.

IN *place, one day, as I was standing,*
Where folks were printed Papers handing
To those that wou'd, or read, or buy 'em,
These Remarks *made, as I stood nigh 'em :*
I saw, *a mighty,* zealous *Crew,*
Some for Old Stock, *and some for* New,
Were Pro *and* Conning *their hard Cases,*
By the chief **Dons** *of several Classes,*
'Mongst which **Grandees** *I sometimes fell in,*
And heard most dismal Stories *telling* ;
The one, the other, much Arraign'd,
And credit *of their Causes stain'd.*
Thus having heard each side complain,
Methoughts, 'mongst both, were K——s *in grain :*
And that when such, fall out and scold,
An Injur'd Case *might then be told :*
And on the Old Proverb made me think,
The more they stir, the more they stink ;
And did conclude from all these Hearings,
There's neither Barrel better Herrings.
I saw *a* **Case**, *concerning Wooll,*
With Reasons stuft, both clear *and full* ;
Which plainly shew'd our certain *ruin,*
These mighty Talkers *were pursuing,*
Yet saw, *that many, at first sight on't,*
There were, that made but very light on't,
And found there were but few *attend it,*
But very few *that wou'd defend it* ;
Amaz'd *I stood, and* much *dejected,*
So great a Cause *should be neglected.*
Soon after that, I saw, *with vigour,*
Verses catch'd *up, 'bout fight of* Tyger,
By Old *and* Young, *by* Fools *and* Witty,
And by the great Dons *of the* City.
Thought I, this **Case**, *if I should write,*
In such a manner, Folks would buy't,
And read, for sake of Dogrel *Rhime,*
Which Thought improv'd ; *I lost no time,*
But presently, o'er Pot of Ale,
Writ a great part of this sad **Tale**,
Which, if you like, you may have more on't,
For I now have, or shall, have store on't.

The Tale.

WHen first the *Indian* Trade began,
And Ships beyond the *Tropicks* ran,
In quest of various *Drugs* and *Spices*,
And sundry other *strange* Devices,
Bengals, and *Silks*, of *Indians* making,
Our *Merchants* then refus'd to take in,
Knowing it wou'd their Country *ruin*,
And might prove to their *own* undoing.
Nor did they carry **Gold** or **Bullion**,
To fetch home what Supplants our *Woollen* ;
Nor were this *Nation* fond to wear
Such *Indian* Toys, which cost so dear :
Then were we clad in *Woollen* Stuffs,
With *Cambrick* Bands, and *Lawn* Ruffs,
Or else in *Silk*, which was Imported
For *Woollen* Goods, which we Exported ;
Which *Silk* our *English* Weavers bought,
And into various Figures wrought.
Then scarce a *Child* was to be seen,
Without *Say* Frock, that was of green,
Our *Hangings*, *Beds*, our *Coats*, and *Gowns*,
Made of our **Wooll** in Clothing Towns.
This Nation then was *Rich* and *Wealthy*,
And in a State which we call'd healthy.

But since the Men of *Gath* arose,
And for their Chief *Goliah* chose.
And since that mighty Giants Reign,
Whose chiefest *Aim* was private Gain,
This Trade was drove on by such measures,
As soon *Exhausted* much our Treasures,
For then our **chiefest Artists** went
With *Patterns*, and with *Money* sent,
To make and purchase *Indian* Ware,
For which this Nation pays full dear.
Then by great Gifts of *finest* touches,
To *Lords* and *Ladies*, *Dukes* and *Duchess*,
So far prevail'd, as set the fashion,
Which **Plague**-like soon spread o'r the Nation.
Our *Ladies* all were set a gadding,
After these Toys they ran a madding ;
And nothing then wou'd please their fancies,
Nor *Dolls*, nor *Joans*, nor wanton *Nancies*,
Unless it was of *Indians* making ;
And if 'twas so, 'twas *wondrous* taking.
This **Antick** humour so prevail'd,
Tho' many 'gainst it *greatly* rail'd,
'Mongst all degrees of *Female* kind,
That nothing else could please their mind.
Tell 'em the following of such fashion,
Wou'd *beggar* and *undo* the Nation,
And *ruin* all our Labouring Poor,
That must, or **starve**, or beg at door,
They'd not at all regard your story,
But in their *painted* Garments glory ;
And such as were not *Indian* proof,
They *scorn'd*, despis'd, as paltry Stuff :

This humour *strangely* thus prevailing,
Set all the *poorer* sort a railing,
Or else with *grief* their Case bewailing.
The *richer* seeing what was doing,
And how the *Nation* ran to **ruin**,
To *King* in Council did complain,
In time of *Charles* the Second's Reign,
On which were several *Lords* appointed,
By him who was the Lords Anointed,
To hear the Case, and *sad* Complainings,
Of those that *Then* were for Restrainings;
Who *plainly* did their Lordships tell,
What *mischiefs* to our Trade befel;
How both our *Men* and *Bullion* went
To work in *India*, and be spent
In needless *Toys*, and gawdy *Dresses*,
For *Ladies*, *Madams*, *Trulls*, and *Misses*.

The *Case* thus heard, they were inclin'd
Some proper Remedy to find;
And something was in order doing,
To put a stop to further *ruin*,
But by the *Craft* of great **Goliah**,
Who all the *Host* stood in defy-a.
There is this *story* passing Current,
That say 'twas he that stopt this torrent,
By pouring *Gold* in plenteous showers,
In **Ladies** Laps, who bore great Powers,
Which *strangely* alter'd all their Measures,
Such *charms* there are in hidden Treasures.
Thus *Barricading* all Complaints,
Drove **Jehu**-like, without Restraints
Fill'd *Town* and *Country* soon so full,
As *ruin'd* much, our Trade in *Wooll*:
And such *great* Stocks of *Wooll* and *Cloths*,
Were hoarded up, and eat by *Moths*,
Made *Clothiers* all, and *Growers* grumble,
When Cloathes and Fleeces o'r they tumbl'd.
And further mischiefs to prevent,
Complaint was made in Parliament:
And 'cause the **Wooll**, so near affected,
This *Salvo* for't was then projected,
That since the Living would not bear it,
They should, when *dead*, be forc'd to wear it;
This help'd in part, but the **Grand Ill**
Remains upon the Kingdom still.
Yet this our *Ladies* so offended,
As all our Female Sex contended,
And *fain* would had this *Act* rejected,
But then their Councels were neglected,
And Time has reconcil'd it so,
To this *Wooll Act* they're now no Foe:
So that from *Ladies* great, to Skullion,
All buried lay in our own *Woollen*.

And **happy** thrice would *England* be,
If, while their Living, we could see,
Our **noble Ladies** but beginning,
To wear our *Wooll* of *finest* Spinning,
Or in such *Silks* our Workmen make,
For which our *Merchants* Cloth do take,
Which soon wou'd bring them in such fashion,
As they'd be worn throughout this Nation,
By all *Degrees*, and *Sex*, and *Ages*,
From highest *Peers* to lowest *Pages*;
Nor would the meanest *Trull* or *Besses*,
Delight to wear these *Indian* Dresses,
Which certainly wou'd **Profit** bring,
To **them**, their **Tenants**, and our **King**,
And *Heavn's* Blessings in the bargain,
Because they'll keep our *Poor* from starving,
For they wou'd soon be then employ'd,
Our **Money** too at **Home** wou'd 'bide,
And *happy* then both *great* and *small*,
With Mirth in *Parlour*, and in *Hall*,
When thus, with Plenty, *Beards* wagg all.

EPILOGUE.

AND now this Tale, *thus far being ended,*
Methinks I see some Folks *offended,*
And 'gainst this Dogrel *Poet rail,*
Because he've told so plain *a Tale,*
And New and Old Stock, *Jobbing Throng,*
Crying *it down, be't* right *or* wrong;
But if they do, and away fling 'em,
'Tis a great Sign, they're Truths *that sting 'em.*
But let them spend their Lungs, *and hollow,*
Such blustring *Sparks he needs not value,*
Since all his aim, *and his* designs,
Are to beat down their Indian *Blinds,*
That all **true English Men** *may see,*
What cause, *their real Misery,*
That so they may prevent their **ruin,**
And save this Nation *from* undoing:
But if they still will shut their eyes,
And demonstrations *plain despise;*
And if his **Tale** *shall be rejected,*
Or if this **Cause** *be still neglected,*
He only this has more to say,
That he can shift *as well as they,*
And that he writ this, not for Pay.

LONDON: Printed, and are to be sold by *A Baldwin* in *Warwick-Lane*. 1699

Prince Butler's Queries

Relating to

The East-India Trade.

1. SInce ſome very good Friends, of both *Old* and *New Stocks*, are endeavouring, by all honeſt ways, together to joyn, and in order thereto, are *Writing*, *Pleading*, and *Printing* their Caſes; and ſince *Loſers* have always the Liberty to ſpeak, why may not I as well *Print* and *Plead* my Caſe; For I am ſure I have as much, *nay more* reaſon to do it than they?

2. If theſe two contending *Stocks* be made one, and the *Engliſh Manufacturers* Caſe be not taken ſome care of, I can, without Star-gazing, plainly foreſee, That they, and ſome *other Folks*, ſoon *Ruin'd* will be; And therefore pray, Mind what I ſay; If not for their ſakes, for your own, be pleas'd to take care on't.

3. Is it not much more demonſtrable, That the *East-India* Trade is of greater advantage to *England* than 'twas two Years ago; For ſince that time, it has in a great meaſure Ruined the *Canterbury Silk Trade*, and obliged moſt of the *London Silk Weavers*, *Throwſters*, &c. to give over their ſeveral Trades and Employments?

4. Will not this be of great Advantage to all the *Clothing Counties* in *England*, becauſe ſome of theſe poor People, rather than ſtarve, are gone to *Ireland*, and ſet up Trade there; others fall'n to *Comb*, *Card*, and *Spin*; make *Cloths*, *Stuffs* and *Serges*; who being at the Principal Market, can make and ſell them as well, or better, than the Country Weaver and Clothier can do?

5. Does not Sir *Joſ. Child*, who is well known to be Skilful in Trade, prove plainly, That the *East-India* Trade ought to be greatly Encouraged, when he tells us in Print, That *the Expence of Foreign Commodities, eſpecially Foreign Manufactures, is the worſt Expence a Nation can be inclinable to, and ought to be prevented as much as poſſible?* Diſcourſe of Trade. *The Preface.*

6. Has not the *Author* of the Eſſay on the *E India Trade*, as ſufficiently proved it Gainful, not only to us, but all *Europe*, when he tells us, *They had been Richer by a full Third than they now are, if that Trade had never been Diſcovered or Undertaken; and that it bears hard only upon thoſe Countries that Conſume thoſe Commodities?* Eſſay on the *East-India Trade* page 14.

7. Is it not plain, That it bears not hard upon *England*, ſince it could never be proved (and I *challenge* any now to do it) That we Conſume at *Home*, in *Ireland*, or our *Plantations*, above nine parts in ten: Or that in Foreign Parts (except our Plantations, *&c.*) there are Conſumed above one eighth part of the *Wrought Silks*, *Bengals*, and *Printed Callicoes?*

8. Since 'tis allowed this Trade is hurtful to *Europe*, and all are agreed in a General Peace, What if they ſhould agree to Baniſh it out of all their Dominions? But if not, Why ſhould we reſtrain any part, Since *we have nothing from thence of ſolid Uſe*, (but) *Materials for Luxury, and periſhable Commodities, for our Gold and Silver, which is there buried*, as the ſame *Author* tells us? Page 12.

9. Is it not better we ſhould be at four or five hundred thouſand Pounds Charge *per An.* for *Indian Vanities*, having ſuch plenty of Money, than for the ſake of imploying our own *Poor*, upon our own *Wooll*, diſoblige ſeveral *Maids* and their *Miſtreſſes*, who would then be at a loſs how to Dreſs up *themſelves*, their *Chambers*, *Parlours*, and *Cloſets?*

10. Is it not our Intereſt (as the Eſſayer tells us) to wear theſe *Indian* Manufactures, becauſe they would ſoon bring down the price of our own ſo low, *That we may Export them to all Foreign Markets, and be able to under-ſell all Nations*; For (ſurely) they neither can, or will ever think of falling in their Prices as we do. Page 29.

11. Or if they ſhould, rather than leave off and *ſtarve*, ſell their Commodities as cheap as we, Pray what ſhall we get by this *Learned Advice*, ſince after all our Reducing, the *Indians* that Work for a Peny a Day, will outdo us all, unleſs we're reſo'v'd to Work as Cheap, or Cheaper than they?

12. Will not the Falling the Prices reduce the Wages of the *Poor*, and by that means make the Nation grow *Rich*, ſince Sir *Joſ. Child* has very well obſerved, *That where ever Wages are high, throughout the whole World, it is an* infallible *Evidence of the Riches of that Country*; *And where Wages for Labour runs low, 'tis a proof of the Poverty of that Place?* Preface.

13. But if bringing down the Prices will be ſuch an Advantage, Why may we not as well ſend for the *Corn* we ſpend to the *Eaſt Country*, for theirs is much cheaper than ours? And then we may ſend our own *Corn* with our own *Cloth*, &c. to ſeek Abroad for a Market; Would not this ſoon Raiſe the Value of all the *Rents* and *Lands* in *England?*

14. And to ſave yet the more, employ the *Dutch Shipping*, for they always Sail much cheaper than we do, and then we may ſend our own *Ships* to all Foreign Nations, that either want, or will hire them, or elſe ſave the Building of more, to the much greater Preſervation of both our *Seamen* and *Timber?*

15. And

15. And if nought but cheap Working will vend our Commodities, let's to't in good earneſt, and Employ the *Twelve hundred Thouſand* which the Eſſay tells us receives Alms, which by the way is a very great Number, and ſhews how much we want the *poor Indians* to Work for us, and they ſure will bring down the Prices ſo low, that when our Money is gone, the *Indians* will take ſome *Stuffs* for their *Callicoes*.

16. What if the *Landed Men* ſhould apprehend, that this would *Begger* their *Tenants*, and *Fall* all their *Rents*. Can't we by another *Eſſay*, with *Rhetorical Flouriſhes*, amuſe them, and then by *imaginary*, or *fabulous* Computation, *&c.* prove this cannot be; Or that 'tis our *Intereſt* it ſhould be ſo, rather than reſtrain the *Eaſt-India* Trade?

17. Has not this Nation been great Gainers for many Years by the uſe of *Muſlings* and *Callicoes*, which are worn in the room of *German Linnens*, *Sileſia Cambricks*, and *Lawns*? For the firſt we have had for our *Money* and *Bullion*: The laſt were the Return of our own *Woollen Manufactures*, which now we can keep for our own uſe at Home.

18. Were not the *Sileſians* very great *Fools*, when we would not take off their *Cambricks* and *Lawns*, to ſet up the making of *Woollen*, with which they now ſupply both themſelves and their Neighbours; Whereas we could yet have very well ſerved them both for their *Money*? And may not ſome others ſoon follow ſuch *fooliſh* Examples?

19. If the *Parliament* would be ſo kind as to take off the Duty from courſe *Callicoes*, which being from twenty to fifty *per Cent.* is a very great Clog upon them; We could then alſo ſoon beat them out of moſt of the reſt of their *Linnens*, which might be as much more for the *Profit* and *Gain* of this Kingdom.

20. But if this will leſſen the *Cuſtoms*, we're content they ſhould double the Duties on all Wrought Silks; for they may well bear about 25 *per Cent.* And being ſuch *Bulky Commodities*, ſure none will Run them to ſave ſuch ſmall Cuſtoms, or the Ladies wear them when they'll be ſo dear: And will not this pleaſe the *Clamorous Silk Weavers*?

21. Or if they *complain* ſtill, Can any one think the *Parliament* may not have ſome regard to ſo conſiderable a Company of *poor Manufacturers* as they are? When as, with no very great *difficulty*, they lately paſs'd an Act for *Relief* and *Support* of the *Hair* and *Silk* Button-Makers?

22. If the *Eaſt-India* Company had Imported theſe Commodities, would it not have been eaſier for theſe *Button-Makers* to have gained their Bill? And ſince the *Parliament* have paſt an Act in favour of the *Trimmings*, may they not in time do as much for the Principal Parts of the *Garments*?

23. And now to conclude: To your ſelves be ſo *kind*, Theſe Quericals *mind*, For they are *deſign'd*, To inform all *Mankind*, So as Truth they may *find*, If *not* willingly *Blind*: But whoſoe'r by private Intereſt is *ſway'd*, Or Money has *paid*, To the *Eaſt-India Aid*, I am very much *afraid*, That for all I have *ſaid*, They will me *upbraid*, And cry out *I am Mad*.

24. But if they do, I muſt tell them *plain*, I find in my *Brain*, So much Senſe ſtill *remain*, As the Cauſe I'll *maintain*, 'Gainſt them and their *Train*: Therefore don't *diſdain*, My Querical *Strain*, And I ſhall *remain*, Your Friend as *before*, To ſtand at your *Door*, To plead for the *Poor*, And have yet in *ſtore*, Of ſuch Quericals *more*, At leaſt a whole *Score*: Which you may have when you pleaſe.

LONDON: Printed, and are to be Sold by *A. Baldwin* in *Warwick-Lane*, 1699.

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QUERICAL DEMONSTRATIONS,

WRIT BY

PRINCE BUTLER,

Author of the Eleven QUERIES

RELATING TO

The BILL for prohibiting Faſt-India *Silks and Printed Callicoes.*

CAN any Man doubt my Truth and Sincerity? I am an *Eaſt-India* Merchant, and ſpeak where my Intereſt is concern'd.

Is it not as eaſie to demonſtrate that the prohibiting the wear of *Eaſt-India* wrought Silks, *&c.* is a prejudice to *England*, as to make out that Account to be juſt and true, which was lately referr'd to the *Eaſt-India* Committee? and ought not this Bill to be hindred from paſſing, by the ſame honeſt Means, which few years ſince were uſed to obtain a Charter and Settlement?

Are not the Writers for the *Eaſt-India* Company to be believed? ſince in order to get it ſettled by Act of Parliament, they declared that Three parts in four of theſe *Eaſt-India* Silks Imported, were again Exported? and now, in order to deſtroy the Prohibition Bill, they own Three parts in four are conſumed in *England*.

Will not the Nation be ruin'd, if we prohibit the wear of *Eaſt-India* Silks? for then we ſhall wear our own Growth and Manufacture, inſtead of Silks fetch'd in with our Money and Bullion.

Had not a Hundred thouſand Poor rather come to their Pariſhes for want of Work, and all the Land of *England* fall two years Purchaſe; then that the Cook-Maids ſhould not be cloathed in *India* Silks, and the Ladies in Callicoes?

Is not this Prohibition a *French* Invention, who neither underſtand nor purſue their own Intereſt? what are they the better for incouraging Trade and their own Manufactures? and is not their Navigation of late years viſibly decreaſed by it?

Will not this Prohibition be of great Advantage to the *Dutch*? for now we muſt go to Forreign Markets with theſe wrought Silks, as well as they.

Is it not demonſtrable that this will be the making the *Scotch Eaſt-India* Company? becauſe if the Bill paſs they cannot Retail theſe Silks in *England*. Indeed the chief Subſcribers are the greateſt Sticklers againſt this Bill; but Merchants are often miſtaken in point of Intereſt.

Is it not as plain that this is a Partial Bill, calculated for the Intereſt of *Norwich* and *Canterbury*? ſince except thoſe Cities, there are only the Landed-men concern'd; and in *London*, *Exeter*, *Briſtol*, and the reſt of *England*, there are not above Five hundred thouſand People maintain'd by the Woollen and Silk Manufactures.

Is not the Imploying Two thouſand Seamen in the *India* Trade (whereof above half periſh in the Voyage) to be preferr'd to the Maintenance of ſuch an inconſiderable number.

Since fartheſt fetch'd is moſt eſteem'd, and they work in *India* for One penny a day, were it not for the Advantage, as well as the Satisfaction of *England*, to ſend all our Wooll thither to be Manufactur'd?

Were it not better the People of *England* were oblig'd to go Naked, rather than wear their own Manufactures? for ſo they might ſend all their Cloths and Stuffs abroad, and bring the Ballance of Trade even.

But ſince that can't be done at the latter end of a Seſſions, why not prohibit the *Dutch* and *Italian* Silks? for they are dearer than our Silks: and incourage the wearing *Eaſt-India* Silks? for they will even under-ſell our Stuffs.

Why ſhould not the Parliament, for the ſame reaſon, Repeal the Woollen Act, and oblige every Body to be buried in *India Silks*?

What can make *England* more happy and merry than this *Eaſt-India* Trade will in time? which Exports ſo much of our Money to fetch Commodities only conſum'd here? for *Contabit vacuus* ——

Do not the *Eaſt-India* Merchants know the Intereſt of the Nation better than the Country Gentlemen? have they not always preferr'd the Publick Good to private Gain? who can be a better Shepherd than the Wolf? (if he pleaſes) nay, than an *Eaſt-India* Trader? who will not only preſerve your Sheep from being deſtroy'd, but will not let them be ſo much as fleec'd.

If the wear of *Eaſt-India* Silks, *&c.* be prohibited, will not the *Indians* take it heinouſly ill? for they do not ſo much conſider our buying theſe Commodities, as our wearing them. And unleſs we are clothed in their Silks, their Horſes and Elephants will not be willing to wear our Broad-cloth.

If the Soldiers Wives are not in *India* Silks, Where ſhall their Husbands get Gun-powder? the *Indians* will let us have no Salt-petre. For a Trader, when he cannot ſell what Commodity he pleaſes, will ſtarve before he will ſell any other.

Has not the Price of Land viſibly Advanced for theſe Thirty years laſt paſt, which is about the time we firſt Imported theſe Manufactures? and for theſe laſt Two years, that few or none have been Imported, are not Rents worſe paid, and Wooll become a Drug?

Which Mercer lives beſt, and is moſt likely to thrive? he who Clothes his Family in the richeſt Silks? or he who plays the fool and ſells them, turns the Penny, and makes his Wife and Children wear Woollen?

Is not this Prohibition a manifeſt Injury to that vaſt number of Gentlemen's Sons bound Apprentices to Linnen Drapers? ſince that Trade only conſiſts in ſelling *India* Silks and Cottons, and has done ſo for theſe many Hundred years before theſe Goods were known?

Will not the Cuſtoms conſiderably abate if this Prohibition paſs? for theſe very Commodities have raiſed above Ten thouſand pounds within theſe Seven years, and therefore ought to be continued, though to the prejudice of Land. For pray, what has Land furniſh'd towards carrying on of the War?

Is it not apparent this Prohibition Bill is defective, and will not anſwer the ends propoſed by the Landed-men and *Engliſh* Manufacturers? For are not the *India* Merchants more ſolicitous to hinder the paſſing this Bill, then to forward the paſſing their own Settlement?

Laſtly, If this Bill ſhould paſs, it may put the Parliament in the mind of making another Act, for the Incouragement of our own Woollen and Silk Manufactures, That no Silks ſhall hereafter be Imported, but ſuch as come in Return of our Products and Manufactures, would not ſuch an Act exaſperate the *French*? who only Import Silks in Return of Money, and be of dangerous Conſequence?

Querical Demonſtrations,

Writ by

Prince BUTLER,

Author of the Eleven Queries Relating to the BILL *for prohibiting* Eaſt-India *Silks and Printed Callicoes.*

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If the Soldiers Wives are not in *India* Silks, Where ſhall their Husbands get Gun-powder? the *Indians* will let us have no Saltpetre. For a Trader, when he cannot ſell what Commodity he pleaſes, will ſtarve before he will ſell any other.

Has not the Price of Land viſibly Advanced for theſe Thirty years laſt paſt, which is about the time we firſt Imported theſe Manufactures? and for theſe laſt Two years, that few or none have been Imported, are not Rents worſe paid, and Wooll become a Drug?

Which Mercer lives beſt, and is moſt likely to thrive? he who Clothes his Family in the richeſt Silks? or he who plays the fool and ſells them, turns the Penny, and makes his Wife and Children wear Woollen?

Is not this Prohibition a manifeſt Injury to that vaſt number of Gentlemen's Sons bound Apprentices to Linnen Drapers? ſince that Trade only conſiſts in ſelling *India* Silks and Cottons, and has done ſo for theſe many Hundred years before theſe Goods were known?

Will not the Cuſtoms conſiderably abate if this Prohibition paſs? for theſe very Commodities have raiſed above Ten thouſand pounds within theſe Seven years, and therefore ought to be continued, though to the prejudice of Land. For pray, what has Land furniſh'd towards carrying on of the War?

Is it not apparent this Prohibition Bill is defective, and will not anſwer the ends propoſed by the Landed-men and *Engliſh* Manufacturers? For are not the *India* Merchants more ſolicitous to hinder the paſſing this Bill, then to forward the paſſing their own Settlement?

Laſtly, If this Bill ſhould paſs, it may put the Parliament in the mind of making another Act, for the Incouragement of our own Woollen and Silk Manufactures, That no Silks ſhall hereafter be Imported, but ſuch as come in Return of our Products and Manufactures, would not ſuch an Act exaſperate the *French*? who only Import Silks in Return of Money, and be of dangerous Conſequence?

Querical Demonſtrations,

Writ by

Prince Butler,

Author of the Eleven Queries Relating to the **BILL** *for prohibiting* East-India *Silks and Printed Callicoes.*

Conſiderations Humbly Offered by the WEAVERS *for the bringing of Fine* Italian *Thrown Silk over Land.*

THat the Weavers of *London* and *Canterbury*, and *Royal Luſtring Company* do imploy many Thouſands of Families, in Weaving of *Thrown Silk*.

That they have very lately attained the Beneficial Art of making Luſtrings and Alamodes, ſuch as were heretofore imported from *France*, and for which this Nation paid more than 200000 l. *per Annum*, as appears by the Cuſtom-Houſe Books, and theſe Silks cannot be made of any other than fine *Italian* Thrown Silk.

That all ſorts of Figured, Flowered and ſtriped Broad Silks, and all Sattin Figured and Plain Ribbons are made of fine *Italian* Thrown Silk, with a mixture of Courſer Sorts.

That a greater quantity of *Italian* than *Turkey* Thrown Silk is uſed in the ſaid Woven Silks, not of Choice but of Neceſſity, the Weavers being obliged to weave Silks as Beautiful as woven Silks, that are daily Imported from beyond the Seas.

That theſe numerous Manufacturers, and Beneficial Arts, have (theſe two Years paſt) been diſcouraged, and are now almoſt Ruined by the dearneſs of *Italian* Thrown Silk, occaſion'd by a late *Act of Parliament* that prohibits the Importation of *Italian* Thrown Silk over-land, and injoyns the bringing thereof directly by Sea from *Italy*.

That the bringing them (during the preſent War) by Sea round *France* according to the ſaid *Act*, Hazards their being taken by the *French*, and increaſes the price thereof near a Third more than if the ſame ſhould be brought overland as formerly.

That our Neighbours beyond the Seas (who bring their Thrown Silk from *Italy* over-Land) ſell the ſame from 25 to 30 *per Cent.* cheaper than the ſame Silks are ſold for in *England*; by means whereof our ſaid Neighbours are greatly inabled to Import Woven Silks upon us. And ſeveral Perſons have ſent Patterns of *Engliſh* Flowered Silks to *Holland*, *Italy*, &c. and have given Orders for great quantities of ſuch Silks to be imported hither againſt the next Spring.

That the Conſequence of the difference of the Price of Thrown Silk to us and our Neighbours muſt be the loſs of theſe Beneficial Arts to this Kingdom, and the numerous Manufacturers muſt go beyond the Seas for Imployment.

That Woven Silks are imported over Land from any Part without Lett, or Reſtriction, when Thrown Silk is obliged to be brought by long Sea.

That the Importing *Italian* Thrown Silk over Land cannot diſcourage Navigation, for that two Thirds of ſuch Silks have been imported in *Genoeſe* Ships, which are liable to be taken by the *Algerines*, and a Ship of 70 Tun will bring (at one time) more than the *Engliſh* Weavers work up in a Year.

That the bringing of Thrown Silk over Land will not prejudice the Throwers of Silk of this Nation, For that the Weavers have Petitioned for Liberty to import fine *Italian* Thrown Silks, ſuch as are not Throwed in *England*, and them only during the preſent War, and it's hoped that fine *Italian* Thrown Silks thus to be brought in can prejudice or diſappoint none but the *French*, or ſuch who are deſirous (for their Private Intereſt) to advance the Price thereof even to the Hazard of the Loſs of the Silk Manufactory.

That the Trade to *Italy* is very advantagious to *England*, and particularly to the Weſterly part, For that our Merchants ſend thither the Product and Manufacture of this Nation, as *Lead*, *Tinn*, *Fiſh*, and alſo *Serges*, *Perpetuanoes*, and other *Stuffs* made of all *Engliſh Wooll*, which are ſent to *Italy* fully Manufactured.

It is objected that the Weavers did not Petition againſt the paſſing the ſaid Act. *Anſw.* That the Weavers were wholly ignorant of the Hazard of bringing *Italian* Thrown Silk by the danger of long Sea, but relyed on the advice of ſeveral Merchants (their pretended Friends) who projected their private Intereſt, and left the weavers to learn by woful Experience the ſad effect of the ſaid Act.

Now foraſmuch as the Weavers have Induſtriouſly attain'd to the Perfection of the Art of Weaving, and Pray not for Matters that may particularly advance themſelves, but only for Neceſſaries to prevent the Ruin of ſo Beneficial and Ingenuous Arts, Therefore 'tis moſt humbly prayed, That fine *Italian Thrown Silk* may be permitted to be Imported over Land during the preſent War with *France*.

K. England. William III. King. 816. fol. 13. 132

A LIST

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Of ſeveral Sorts of *Silks* and *Callicoes* uſually Imported from the *Eaſt-Indies*, *Perſia* and *China*, Prohibited to be uſed in *England*, by the Bill Entituled, *An Act for Reſtraining the Wearing of all Wrought Silks*, *Bengals* Dyed, Printed or Stained *Callicoes*.

Prohibited.	*Prohibited.*	*Prohibited.*
Allibannies	Carpetts	Romalls Silk
Allejaes	Chucklaes	*ditto* Cotton
Ammores	Damasks	*ditto* Serunge
Addeccannees	Derribafts	Raſtaes
Agentbannies	Elatches	Sooſeys
Atlaſſes	*ditto* Lingua	Soops
Brawles	Guiny Stuffs	Seerſuckers
Chints Serunge	Girdles	Sattins
ditto Caddy	Ginghams colour.	Sacerguntees
ditto Surrat	Gelongs	Salpicadoes
ditto Brampore	Goachon Cherulas	Shows
ditto Culme	Hockins	Tapſeils
ditto Pattanna	Herba Lunges	Taffaties Perſia
ditto Gulconda	Jammawars	*ditto* Amadavad
ditto Wrought	Longes Flowred	*ditto* Herba
Culgees	Mocha Silks	*ditto* Gumm'd
Cuttannees	Niccannees	*ditto* Chaine
ditto Striped	Nillaes	*ditto* Checquer'd
ditto Floured	Peniaſcoes	Tonqueen Pelongs
ditto Wrought	Paunches	*ditto* Plain
Cherconnees	Pallungpores	*ditto* Nankeen
Callawaypooſe	Phota Lungees	Velvets
Checquerd Silks	Quilts	Zeerbafts

Beſides many other Sorts of *Callicoes Dyed*, or *Wrought* with *Silk*, not enumerated herein.

So that by this Bill all *Silks* are Prohibited, and all *Callicoes*, except ſuch as are entirely White, as is alſo almoſt the Whole *China* Trade.

LIST of Goods Prohibited by the Bill for Reſtraining the Wearing *Eaſt-India Silks* and *Callicoes*.

K. England · William III. King 135 313

Five Queries Humbly Tender'd, Relating to the Bill for Prohibiting the Conſumption of Eaſt-India Silks, Bengals *and Printed* Callicoes.

I. WHY Should *Eaſt-India* Silks and *Bengals* be Prohibited which to the Nation are Three Times as Cheap again as *Dutch*, *French* and *Italian* Silks.

II. Why *Eaſt-India* Silks, *Bengals* and Printed *Callicoes*, that Pay Twenty *per Cent.* Cuſtoms more than *Dutch* and *Italian* Silks, and Five times the Freight of *Dutch*, *French* and *Italian* Silks.

III. Why *Perſia* Silks Purchaſed with *Engliſh* Cloth and Stuffs more than *Dutch*, *French* and *Italian* Silks bought with our Money.

IV. Why ſhould Painted Callicoes from *India* be Prohibited, when We muſt in their Room Print *Dutch*, *French* or *German* Linnens, which will Coſt the Nation Three Times the Price.

V. Why ſhould we Enrich our Neighbours by Prohibiting *Eaſt-India* Silks and wearing of theirs, when at one time or other they may Employ the Coſts of thoſe Silks againſt Us.

QUERIES to the BILL for Prohibiting the Conſumption of *Eaſt-India Silks*, &c.

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CONSIDERATIONS *relating to the* BILL *for Reſtraining the Wearing* India *wrought Silks, &c. in* ENGLAND.

William III. King 250 K.

IT's certain Truth agreed on by all Hands, that this Kingdom is in an extraordinary manner fitted (by the Bounty of Heaven) for a great Encreaſe in *Wealth* and *Power*, and as certain it's the Duty of every Engliſh-man, ſo far to Endeavour the welfare of his Country, as to hinder as much as poſſible he can thoſe Methods (uſed by Perſons who mind their own private Intereſt before the Publick Good) which tend to the Deſtruction of *Both*.

To this end it may not be unſerviceable to conſider ſome Maxims of Sir *Joſiah Child* (**The Great Champion for the East-India Trade**) laid down in his *Excellent Treatiſe* concerning Trade, and if it be found they do ſtrenuouſly argue in the behalf of the *Bill* now depending, which reſtrains the wearing *East-India* wrought Silks, *&c.* in *England*, then it's to be hoped, thoſe Gentlemen that are concern'd in the *East-India* Trade (and who at preſent labour ſo induſtriouſly againſt the ſaid Bill) will ſilently own themſelves to be miſtaken.

That Wooll is eminently the Foundation of Engliſh Riches, and that the ways to equalize or over-ballance our Neighbours in our National Profit by our Foreign Trade: Are — *Diſcourſe of Trade*, p. 127.

To prevent the Exportation of our Wooll, *and encourage our Woollen Manufactures.* — Page 156.

To encourage thoſe Foreign Trades moſt, that vend moſt of our Manufactures, and that Supply us with Materials further to be Manufactur'd in England.

That it's our Intereſt by Example, and other Means (not diſtaſtful) above all kind of Commodities, to prevent as much as may be the Importation of Forreign Manufactures. — Page 161.

That it is multitudes of People, and ſuch Laws as cauſe an Encreaſe of People which principally enrich any Country. — *Preface.*

That Lands *(though excellent) without hands proportionable will not enrich any Kingdom. That whatever tends to the Depopulating any Kingdom, tends to the Empoveriſhment thereof.* — Page 165. & 167.

That it is our Duty to God *and* Nature *to provide for, and employ the Poor. That ſuch as our Employment is for the People, ſo many will our People be.* — Page 56. & 174.

That it's the Intereſt of a Kingdom, the Poors Wages ſhould be high; for wherever Wages are high throughout the whole World, it is an infallible Evidence of the Riches of that Country; and wherever Wages for Labour runs low, it's a proof of the Poverty of that place. — *Preface.*

That the Expence of Forreign Commodities, *eſpecially* Forreign Manufactures, *is the worſt Expence a Nation can be inclinable to, and ought to be prevented as much as poſſible.*

Theſe, and many other Heads which might be gathered out of that *Ingenious Treatiſe*, we humbly conceive do *fully* and *clearly* manifeſt the great Prejudice that this Nation ſuſtains, by wearing *East-India Silks, Bengalls, &c.* within this Kingdom, in that it will *unavoidably* deſtroy our Woollen Manufactures, fall the value of our Lands, cauſe us to abandon our Duty to *God* and *Nature*, by leſſening the Poors Wages and Employment, and thereby *Depopulating* our Country, forcing our People away to Forreign Parts, where they may be more employed and better paid, and by that means diminiſhing our *Strength*, empairing our *Honour*, and in the end leaving us only as a Prey to thoſe Merchants, whoſe private Intereſts are Diametrically oppoſite to the Gain of this Kingdom.

It being *notoriouſly* known, that when the vaſt Importation of *East-India* Manufactures came upon us, the *Genius* of the People of *England* (who are generally bewitched with Novelties from Forreign Parts) did univerſally run after thoſe Commodities, that not only their Bodies, but their Houſes alſo were adorned with the Manufactured Goods of *India*, to ſo great a degree, that our own Manufactures, which uſed to ſupply all thoſe occaſions, became almoſt uſeleſs, and the Poor wanted Employment, and unleſs reſtrained, will have all the *ſad Conſequence* beforenamed: All which is humbly offered and ſubmitted to the Conſideration of the *Parliament*.

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REASONS

Humbly Offered 251

For Reſtraining the Wearing of Wrought Silks, Bengals, and Dyed, Printed, and Stained Callicoes, of the Product and Manufacture of Perſia *and the* Eaſt-Indies,, *in* England *and our Plantaions.*

THE Goods Imported from the *Eaſt-Indies*, for ſeveral Years after the *Eaſt-India Company* were firſt Eſtabliſhed, were Drugs, Spices, Salt-petre, *&c.* and ſome Courſe Callico's, which were moſt Exported again: The Members of that Company being then afraid to adventure on other Manufactured Goods, becauſe they well knew it would prejudice our own, and raiſe a Storm againſt the Company, as they often-times declared.

That the *Charter* of the *Eaſt-India Company* was Confirmed by King *Charles* II. in the Thirteenth Year of his Reign: and the Law for permitting Bullion to be Exported, was made ſoon after, at the Solicitation of that Company; and till then, little Silver or Gold was Exported. After that Law was made, begun the great Exportation of Bullion to *India*.

That, in *Anno* 72, or 73 ſeveral Artificers, were ſent over by the Company, with great quantity of Engliſh Patterns, to teach the *Indians* how to Manufacture Goods to make them Vendible in *England*, and the reſt of the *European* Markets. After which began the great Trade in Manufactured Goods from the *Indies*.

That this was complained of, and proved before ſeveral Lords appointed by King *Charles* II. in *Anno* 1680, or 81. Whereupon the Company received ſome Diſcouragement; but finding great Gain by Wrought Silks, Bengals and Callico's, would not deſiſt Trading in them: upon which great Complaints were made in Parliament, againſt the growth of the *Eaſt-India* Trade.

That about 500000 *l.* in Bullion, and but ſmall quantities of our Manufactures have been Yearly Exported; and vaſt quantities of Manufactured Goods Imported, for ſeveral Years before the War.

That a great part of the *India* Manufactured Goods were ſpent in *England*, and our Plantations, in the room of our own Manufactures, *viz.* their Wrought Silks, Bengall's, Painted and Dyed Callico's, in the room of our Silks, Half Silks, Worſted Stuffs, Say's, Perpetuano's, and divers other Commodities, not only for Veſtments for both Sexes, but for Hanging of Rooms, Beds, *&c.*

That

That the *India* Trade was encreaſed, before the War, to a very great height, and their Manufactures in ſo great requeſt, that they (from being a Scandal to be worn a few years before) ſoon after became the general Wear of almoſt all ſorts and degrees of Perſons; by which means our own Manufactures were neglected, and our Manufacturers thereby under great diſcouragement, being not able to carry on their Trades, many were forced to give over, whereby the Poor wanted Employment, the Price of Wool reduced very low, and great quantities of Wool could not be Manufactured: Whereupon the Parliament thought it neceſſary to make a Law for *Burying in Woollen*, thereby to conſume ſome of the Wool that lay heavy upon the Growers Hand.

That the *Indians* have Proviſions and Materials very cheap, and Wages at three Half-pence or two pence a Day; which diſables us, and the reſt of the *European* Traders, to contend with them; and for this reaſon, their Trade did encreaſe apace, until this War; and unleſs reſtrained, will moſt certainly encreaſe, to the ruining of our beſt Fabricks, and the vaſt number of People that have their Livelihood and Dependance thereupon.

That ſince this War, the *India* Company have laboured under ſome Diſcouragements, and but ſmall quantities of their Manufactured Goods, in proportion to what they formerly brought in, have been Imported; by reaſon thereof, great Encouragement hath been given to the Manufactures of Silk, Half Silk, and Worſted, which have been very much improved in a great variety of Figured, Strip'd, and other ſort of Stuffs, which have been made not only in *London*, *Norwich* and *Canterbury*, in much greater quantities than ever; but this Manufacture has now ſpread it ſelf to *Briſtol*, *Newbury*, and divers other Parts of the Kingdom; and will yet encreaſe, if due Encouragement be given thereto.

That ſince our Trade hath encreaſed, greater numbers of Poor have been employed, and greater quantities of Engliſh Wool conſumed; ſo that the Price of the Wool is advanced, and the Labour and Wages of the Poor encreaſed; which enables them to live comfortably, and conſume the Product of the Land, to ſupport themſelves and Families; which is of great Advantage to the Landlords and Tenants, and the Benefit of the whole Nation.

That in caſe the *Eaſt-India* Stock ſhould be enlarged, and that Trade ſettled by Act of Parliament, it will be in the power of that Company to ruine our Woollen and Silk Manufactures, and bring down the Price of Wool, and Work-mens Labour and Wages, as low, if not lower, than ever, unleſs the Wearing of the ſaid Manufactured Goods be prohibited in *England*, and the Plantations.

That ſuch Prohibition would not only encourage our own Manufactures, upon which the Value of Lands, and the Employment of our Poor depends, but prevents the Exportation of much of our Coin, which at this time can be very ill ſpared; and alſo prevent many of the Inconveniences feared from the *Scotch Eaſt-India Company*.

That ſince there is a Trade found out to the *Indies*, no Objection can well be made againſt their Trade in Spices, Drugs, Salt-petre, *&c.* nor againſt the Manufactured Goods that are brought in, and again exported to Foreign Markets; becauſe it will be carry'd on by others, if we ſhould neglect it: But certainly it muſt be accounted very ill Husbandry, and will be of fatal and ruinous conſequence, to deſpiſe our own Manufactures, and ſend our Gold and Silver to the *Indies*, from whence it will never return,

to purchaſe Manufactur'd Goods to be conſumed at Home, when our Money may be kept here to circulate among our ſelves; and is ſo neceſſary to our Commerce, and payments of our Fleets and Armies, without which, we can neither be rich or ſafe.

That the great Argument that is uſed in favour of the *Eaſt-India* Company, is, *That although they Export great Quantities of Bullion, yet they bring in much more for the Goods they ſell in Foreign Markets.* Suppoſing their Aſſertion to be true, this can be no Argument againſt the prohibiting their Manufactures to be worn in *England*, and our Plantations, but rather an Argument for it; for what is conſumed at Home, brings in no Bullion; and if none be conſumed at Home, more may be ſent Abroad: for it will make the Company more induſtrious to find out either New Commodities to deal in, or Markets for the vending thereof, whereby they may make their Trade more Profitable to the Nation.

It is alſo alledged, in favour of the *Eaſt-India* Trade, *That there have of late years been great Quantities of Engliſh Cloth Exported by the Company.* To which this Anſwer is to be given, That the Cloth by them Exported more than formerly, is not conſumed in *India*, but ſent thence to *Perſia*; which hinders the *Turkey* Merchants, who formerly uſed to ſupply thoſe Markets. So that the *Eaſt-India* Company ſending away our Cloth, proves no Advantage to us, and is only done to gain a good Opinion, and make the Nation believe that their Trade is not ſo prejudicial to us as has been repreſented, or as in reality it is.

That the ſending our Money to the *Eaſt-Indies*, to purchaſe Goods perfectly Manufactured there, may Advance Lands, Enrich the People, Employ the Poor in *India*: But ſuch as are ſpent here, in the room of our own Manufactures, muſt have the quite contrary effect with us.

Whether it be for the Intereſt of *England*, to Settle the *Eaſt-India* Trade, without Reſtrictions, is humbly ſubmitted to the Conſideration of the *Parliament*.

REASONS

Againſt Wearing of

India Wrought Silks,

Bengals, and Callicoes,

In *England*, and the Plantations.

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25.

AN ANSWER TO THE REASONS AGAINST

England Commons, Hist. K

The Wearing of East-India *and* Persia *wrought Silks, Bengalls, Dyed and Printed Callicoes in* England.

SOME *Linnen Drapers* in *London* having petitioned the *Honourable House of Commons* against the Bill for Restraining the wearing *East-India* and *Persia* wrought Silks, *&c.* Which not meeting with the desired Effect, have therefore published the Reasons that incouraged the presenting the said Petition, which they have ushered in with a specious Preamble, wherein they declare, *That they are induced to believe that it would be no inconsiderable Service to the whole Kingdom in general, as well as to the particular Satisfaction of that* Honourable House *to publish them, where, upon an equal state of the Matters controverted, it will* incontestably *appear, how fatal and* universally *detrimental the Consequences of such a Prohibition must of Necessity prove, which upon a serious Consideration of the few Reasons,* which they have given, *The utter improbability of such a Prohibition ever being able to Answer the great End thereby proposed, will be fully and satisfactorily demonstrated.*

By this *Preamble* many may be be apt to conclude, That their Reasons must be very *Substantial* and *Unanswerable*; but upon Examination they are found not so, and will admit of plain and easie Answers, which are thought proper to be made publick, with some Remarks thereupon. And are as follows:

They say, *That Trade in general is always free, and will never endure to be shackled and compelled*; *That when it is so, it will endeavour to remove into better quarters.* But at the same time, they should have done well to have Recollected and Considered to whom they were Addressing themselves, which if they had done, they would surely have been more modest: For have not several good Laws been made by former Parliaments for Restraining Trade, by Prohibiting the Importation and Consumption of Forreign Commodities, and preventing the Exportation of our own, as Wooll, *&c.* which had been very ill done, and to no purpose, if their Assertion were true: And are not several Bills now depending to Restrain Trade; As the Bills to Regulate and Settle *India* and *Affrica* Trades, and for the more effectual preventing the Exportation of Wooll.

They say in Answer to the *Canterbury*-men, *That it was not they that beat the* French, Dutch, *and* Italians *out of their Silk Trade, but the* East-India *Goods which were Imported from the Year* 82 *to* 89, *and sold very cheap that did it.* Now supposing this were really true, 'tis hard to imagine what Service this Assertion can do them, but

very eaſie to foreſee the contrary: For if the Cheapneſs of *Eaſt-India* Goods beat both *Dutch*, *French*, and *Italians* out of their Trade, muſt it not naturally follow, that they can and will, with as great eaſe, beat us out alſo.

They own a great Increaſe of Trade, but ſay, *It only proceeds from the Riſe of* Guinea's; *The miſcarriage of the War, and the Continual Demands and Exactions from abroad, and not from the Scarcity of printed* Calicoes, Bengalls, and Perſian Silks, *there being more* India *Goods ſold and printed theſe laſt four years, than in twenty before.* But this is ſo contrary to the obſervation and knowledge of almoſt all ſorts of People, that it requires a more than ordinary Confidence for ſuch an Aſſertion. It muſt be allowed that the Trade in the Woollen Manufactures for coarſe Clothes, Bays, &c. have been greatly Increaſed by reaſon of the War: But the Trade in *Silks*, *Half Silks*, and *Worſted Stuffs*, have gradually increaſed for ſeveral years laſt paſt, as the *Eaſt-India* Goods grew ſcarcer and dearer, theſe Manufactures ſupplied their uſe (in great meaſure) which has been the great Occaſion of that Increaſe, as is evident beyond Contradiction. It's true, that the late *extraordinary* and ſudden Riſe of all ſorts of Commodities was occaſioned by the Riſe of Guineas; but now, notwithſtanding Guineas are fallen, and the *Dutch* take off but few of our *Silks*, *Half-Silks*, or *Worſted Stuffs*, yet their Price is not abated, which can proceed from no other Reaſon but the want of them in *England* and the *Plantations*, which want would ſoon be ſupplied, if the *Eaſt-India* Goods were brought in as plentifully as formerly.

They own *That Raw Silk is the Produce of our Woollen Manufactures Exported*; But pretend to foretel the Conſequences of Prohibiting the *Perſian* Silks, *That it will occaſion a Prohibition of our Woollen Manufactures there.* But they may pleaſe to remember, that when the Trade to *Perſia* was carried on by our *Turkey* Company, the *Perſians* were well content to take our Cloath, and pay us in *Raw Silks*; and we conceive it rational to believe, that they may be content to do ſo again if the Trade were turned into its old Channel.

They aſſert, *That the Prohibition deſired will undeniably be the loſs of three parts in four of the* Eaſt-India *Trade, to the* Ruine *of many of his* Majeſty's *Subjects, and the* unſpeakable *Benefit of the* Dutch *and* Scots. But herein they mightily contradict the *Eaſt-India* Company, who oft-times in print, and otherwiſe have affirmed, That *three parts in four*, and lately to a Committee of *Lords*, that *two parts in three* in value of their whole Trade, is Exported to Forreign Markets; And this Prohibition will leave them a great part of their home Conſumption, as *Druggs*, *Salt-petre*, *Indico*, *Raw Silks*, *White Calicoes*, *Muſlins*, and abundance of other Commodities, and inſtead of *Wrought*, they may bring in greater quantities of *Raw Silk*. But if it be true what they aſſert, That three parts in four of the *Eaſt-India* Trade depend upon our home Conſumption, they have made a conſiderable Diſcovery, by which the Nation may ſee how much they have been impoſed upon by the *Eaſt-India* Company, and how much more prejudicial that Tade is than moſt People imagined. And as to the *Scotch*, nothing (as is conceived) can be a greater Mortification to them than this Prohibition: For thereby the great Expectation of running their Goods (which will be Cuſtom-free) upon us will be wholly cut off, and they left to find out Trade in Forreign Markets, which will be very difficult for them to accompliſh.

Neither can we apprehend this Prohibition will be of any Service to the *Dutch*, but the contrary; for thereby their profitable Trade of Running *India* Goods upon us, will in a great meaſure be cut off.

They ſay, *That this Prohibition will exceedingly diminiſh the* King's Cuſtoms, *and diſcourage the Loan upon that Branch of the Cuſtoms.* This in great meaſure muſt be allowed; but at the ſame time it ought to be conſidered, that if the *Cuſtoms* ariſe by the bringing in of Manufactured Goods (which are the Purchaſe of our Bullion) to be conſumed at home, to the hinderance of our own Manufactures, and the imployment of our People, that this may ſink the *King's Revenues* in its other Branches, as much, if not more: For how can the *Exciſe* for *Bear*, and *Cuſtom* of *Tobacco*, and other Commodities, be as great as now it is, if the *Labour* and *Wages* of the Poor be taken away, or can the *Tenants* pay Rent if they want good Markets for their Commodities? Or how can *Landlords* live comfortably and pay Taxes, if Tenants fail to pay their Rents? And when any Branch anſwers not

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the Loans that are ordered upon it, it has and will no doubt be made good ſome other way.

They aſſert, *That the Prohibition deſired will not incourage the making Silks in* England, *except the* Dutch *and* Italian *Silks be prohibited alſo.* And the Reaſon they give us is, *That the* Dutch *and* Italians *can have as much work done for one ſhilling, as we can have for three:* Which is not true in fact. It's very well known that our *Engliſh* Silk-Manufactures have been greatly increaſed ſince the *India* Goods have been ſcarce and dear; and that notwithſtanding that Scarcity, neither the *Dutch* or *Italians* have advanced their Trade thereby: For it is plain and evident, that the Ingenuity of our *Engliſh* Workmen outdoes them; and the difference in Wages is nothing ſo conſiderable as they aſſert, which is ballanc'd by the *Cuſtoms* paid upon thoſe Forreign Commodities. But if it ſhall appear that either the *Dutch* or *Italian* Trade be found prejudicial to the Intereſt of this Nation, it's hoped thoſe Trades may be alſo Reſtrained in due time.

They own, *That the Prohibition will open a way for the Imployment of a great many* Weavers *and other Workmen.* But to anſwer this, they ſay, *It will take away the Imployment of many thouſand* Dyers, Callenders, Stiffners, Printers, *&c.* But this is ſo poor an Argument, that one would think they ſhould be aſhamed to offer it: For are the number of *Printers*, and other Workmen imployed upon *Callicoes*, &c. to be compared with the number of *Spinſters*, *Combers*, *Weavers*, and many other Artificers imployed in the *Silk* and *Woollen* Manufactures; and may not theſe *Printers*, &c. as well be imployed in printing our own Manufactures, ſince Printing is or may be as well done upon them as upon *Callicoes* or *India* Silks.

They ſay, *That the Nature of Trade is to Exchange one Commodity for another.* But what Service this can do them in this Caſe, is not eaſily to be imagined; becauſe the Trade in Controverſie is not Exchanging Commodity for Commodity, but chiefly Money for Commodities.

They tell us, *That this Prohibition will turn to no better account than to make our own Manufactures dearer at home, and* India *Goods cheaper to our Neighbours, which will make our Manufactures wholly uſeleſs to them.* And yet notwithſtanding they ſay, *That our Manufacturers will ſet higher Rates upon their Goods*; which ſeems to be a Contradiction. We are very ſenſible that whenever the *Eaſt-India* Trade flouriſh, they will bring in Goods enough to ſupply all Markets, which will unavoidably bring down the Price of our own Manufactures: And for this very Reaſon it is that this Prohibition is deſired, That ſeeing we cannot prevent the Miſchiefs which that Trade will do us in *Forreign* Markets, we may in ſome meaſure help our ſelves by preventing our falling under the ſame Evils at home.

Theſe are all, or the moſt material Reaſons that they have offered, which with the Anſwers and Obſervations thereupon, are with great Submiſſion humbly offered to the Conſideration of the Parliament.

An ANSWER
TO THE
REASONS
AGAINST
Prohibiting the Wearing of *East-India* and *Persia* wrought Silks, *&c.*

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REASONS *againſt the Prohibiting the Wearing of* Eaſt-India *and* Perſia *Wrought Silks, Bengals, Dyed and Printed Callicoes,* &c. *in* England, *Humbly offered to the Conſideration of the Honourable Houſe of Commons.*

K. England.
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HAving lately preſented an Humble Petition to the Honourable *Houſe of Commons* in relation to the Preſent Caſe, which, not meeting with the deſired Effect, we are induced to believe, that it would be no inconſiderable Service to the whole Kingdom in General, as well as to the Particular Satisfaction of that Honourable Houſe, to Publiſh the Reaſons that Encouraged the Preſenting the ſaid *Petition*; where, upon an Equal State of the Matters controverted, it will inconteſtably appear, how Fatal and *Univerſally* Detrimental the Conſequences of ſuch a *Prohibition* (as the *Weavers* of *Canterbury*, *Norwich*, *&c.* are endeavouring to Obtain in their Bill) muſt of neceſſity prove. For *Trade* in General is always free, and will never indure to be Shackel'd and Compell'd; ſo that when any Nation or Society whatſoever, ſhall by unreaſonable *Prohibitions* or any other Means endeavour to Curb and Reſtrain her, it will, without doubt, ſoon make her uneaſie in her preſent Reſidence, and watch for all opportunities of removing thither, where ſhe is likely to meet with better Quarters, and kinder Entertainment.

Beſides by a Serious Conſideration of the few Reaſons following, the utter improbability of ſuch a *Prohibition* ever being able to anſwer the great ends thereby propoſed, will be fully and ſatisfactorily demonſtrated; which now ſhrouds it ſelf under ſuch *Specious pretences* to no other end in the Upſhot, but the enriching ſome particular Perſons, and moſt of them *Foreigners*, at the unavoidable Expence and hazard of the *Publick* Profit and Advantage.

They alledge in behalf of their *Prohibition*, That about Sixteen Years paſt there was but an inconſiderable Trade at *Canterbury*, in making Wrought Silks and Worſted Stuffs, *&c.* but that now the *Engliſh* Induſtry has mightily increaſed the Manufactory to the exceeding Diminution and Prejudice of the *French*, *Dutch*, and *Italian* Trade.

One wou'd think it ſhou'd be fatally Ominous to the Sticklers for the *Prohibition* to ſtumble at the firſt ſtep; for it's beyond contradiction evident, that the difference between the Trade then and now, aroſe only from the Dearneſs of thoſe Foreign Commodities, and the Cheapneſs of *Eaſt-India* Goods, which were Imported in the Years 1683, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88. (there being a Contention then between the *Company* and *Interlopers*, and not as they pretend) as can be made appear by the *Cuſtom-Houſe* Books.

Beſides, 'tis allow'd that the Trade at *Canterbury* and *Norwich* has been mightily encreaſed this laſt Year, but not at all upon account of the Reaſons which they aſſign; But from the riſe of *Guineas* from 21 *s.* 6 *d.* to 30 *s.* the *Dutch* then taking the Advantage of our Miſfortunes, upon the advancing of our Gold, came over, and bought four times the quantity of our Commodities, *viz. Cloth*, *Stuffs*, *Serges*, *Bays* and *Says* more than they uſed to Trade with formerly, paying for them in Guineas at 30 *s.* which they took up at 24 or 25 *s.* at moſt, inſomuch that Goods bought then in *England* are now ſold for 10 *l. per Cent.* Cheaper at *Amſterdam* than they can be bought here: And we challenge them to prove, that ſince the fall of Guineas, that the *Dutch* buy up any thing near the quantities of thoſe Commodities as they did before the value of Guineas was abated.

Another Reaſon of the Increaſe of that Trade ariſes from the preſent War, the Government having had Occaſion for about [illegible] Millions of Money *per Annum* to pay their Army abroad, which the ballance of Trade not anſwering, was forced to ſend not only *Norwich* and *Canterbury* Stuffs and Says, but alſo Lead, Tin, Cloth, Bays, Leather, Tallow, and all other *Engliſh* Manufactures, all which is evident from the Cuſtom-Houſe *Entries*, ſo that they have groundleſly and impertinently alledg'd the *Scarcity* of Printed *Callicoes*, *Bengals*, and *Perſian* Wrought Silks as a reaſon of their Aſſertion, ſince it can be proved that there has been more *Indian* Goods Sold and Printed theſe laſt Four Years, than in Twenty Years before.

Their Allegation that *Raw Silks* are the Product of our Woollen Manufactures is granted, but then if the Wearing all *Perſian* Wrought Silks were Prohibited, what wou'd the Conſequence be, but that our Woollen Manufacture wou'd be prohibited alſo among the *Perſians*, who ſpend more of that Commodity than any other Nation in the World.

Thus much in Anſwer to the Chiefeſt of their Allegations, let us a little conſider the irremediable inconveniencies that muſt of neceſſity enſue ſuch a *Prohibition*, It will undeniably be to the loſs of Three parts in Four of the *Eaſt-India* Trade, which the Parliament at this time are conſulting to Improve to the Diſcouragement of Induſtry and Commerce, the Irrepairable Prejudice of Navigation, the ruin of many of His Majeſties Subjects that depend upon it, and tend to the unſpeakable benefit of the *Dutch*, *Scotch*, and other Nations, who do already Trade to *India*, *Perſia*, *&c.* under better Priviledges, and much greater Advantages than we can pretend to.

It will exceedingly diminiſh the Kings Cuſtoms, (which conſidering our preſent Circumſtances) cannot now be ſo well diſpenſed with. 'Tis well known, the moſt part of thoſe Foreign Manufactures do bring in to the Crown 25 *l. per Cent.* Cuſtom, which if Exported, the drawback will leave but Two and a half to the King, which will abundantly diſcourage the Loan of that part of the Cuſtom which is given by the Parliament as a Fund for this Years Expence of the War.

Nor will this *Prohibition* ever be an Encouragement to the making of Silks in *England*, as is pretended, except the wearing of Silks made in *Holland*, *Italy*, &c. be Prohibited alſo, ſince it can't be deny'd, but the Manufactures Imported from thoſe Countryes, may be afforded Cheaper here than any of our *Engliſh* Silks, becauſe they can have as much Work done there for One Shilling as we can have here for Three.

Their Allegation that this *Prohibition* will open a way for the Employing a great many *Weavers* and other Workmen here in *England*, who would otherways want buſineſs, is as frivolous and inſignificant as any of the reſt, ſeeing it may be return'd upon them with equal facility, for it is undeniable that Dying, Printing, and Staining *Eaſt-India* Wrought Silks and Callicoes, is the conſtant Employment of many Thouſand of Perſons here as *Dyers*, *Callenders*, *Stiffners*, *Printers*, &c. Whoſe whole Maintenance and Subſiſtence depends only upon this Trade, moſt of whom are Natural Born *Engliſh* Men, whereas our *Canterbury* Weavers are *French*, *Dutch*, and *Walloons*, who make little ſcruple of benefiting themſelves at the Damage of the Publick.

Many more Reaſons might be ſuggeſted; but from the Conſideration of theſe few, it is apparent that ſuch a *Prohibition* as theſe Gentlemen ſtickle for, is directly againſt the Intereſt of the Nation in general, and in the Concluſion is likely to prove very fatal to thoſe *Manufactories* in whoſe favour it is to be made, ſince they have all along falſly inſinuated the Increaſe of their Trade, to have proceeded from the ſcarcity of theſe Imported *Foreign* Commodities, when it is occaſion'd by no other Reaſon in the World, than the Riſe of *Guineas*, our Miſcarriages in the War, and the continual demands and exactions from abroad; ſo that for any thing yet diſcover'd, notwithſtanding the hopes they conceive from their *Darling Prohibition*, their preſent *Fluſhing* Trade may produce more miſchievous effects than are now apprehended.

Therefore upon the whole, ſince the Nature of Trade is to Exchange one Commodity for another, if we *Prohibit* the uſe of thoſe Imported hither, we cannot reaſonably expect they ſhou'd give any manner of Encouragement to what we [illegible] thither. So that although it be alledged that the Importation of Silks from *Perſia*, miſtakenly ſeems to be againſt the Improvement of our own Manufactories: yet Conſidering that thoſe Goods are brought over much Cheaper than they can be Manufactured in [illegible] parts of the World, the Prohibiting the Wearing of them here, ſhall turn to no better account than the making our own Manufactures Dearer at home, and thoſe Goods cheaper to our Neighbours, which diſproportion will Naturally make our Manufactures wholly uſeleſs to them, whilſt they make continual Progreſſes in *That* Trade, which we by this *Prohibition* ſhall utterly diſcountenance, and find it very difficult to recover it again, when our neceſſities ſhall make us ſenſible of our Neglect: When thoſe in whoſe favour this *Prohibition* ſhall be granted, finding they have no Competitors will ſet higher Rates upon their Goods, and be leſs careful to improve them in Goodneſs, leaving us nothing at laſt for our ſatisfaction, but the poor Conſolation of being wiſe too late. All which is Humbly offered to the ſerious Conſideration of the Honourable Houſe of Commons.

REASONS againſt Prohibiting the Wearing of *Eaſt-India* and *Perſia* Wrought Silks, Bengals Dyed, and Printed Callicoes, *&c.* in *England.*

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A Reply to a Paper, Intituled, Reaſons againſt the Prohibiting the wearing Eaſt-India and Perſian Wrought Silks, *&c. Humbly offer'd to the Honourable Houſe of Commons.*

K. England.

THE firſt Paragraph of that Paper ſets forth the Author's Belief that it will be no inconſiderable Service to the whole Kingdom in general, as well as to the particular Satisfaction of the Honourable Houſe, to publiſh the Reaſons that encouraged the proſecuting the Petition againſt a Bill brought in for the Prohibition of the wearing Eaſt-Indian and Perſian Silks, *&c.* Had the Petitioners been content with giving and ſubmitting their Reaſons to the Houſe, the firſt Paragraph might have paſt, but they go farther, and ſay, " That upon an equal State of the Matter controverted, it will inconteſta-" bly appear, how fatal and univerſally detrimental the Conſequence of ſuch a Prohibition " muſt of neceſſity prove. This ſeems too great an Aſſurance to determine the Matter before their Reaſons are heard; and even againſt the Opinion of ſo Auguſt an Aſſembly, that have already Voted a Bill to be brought in. Their Maxim, [That Trade in general is free,] is controvertible, and of more uſe in a popular Mob than a wiſe Senate; where Trade is conſiderable in its ſeveral Parts. Some Commodities are reſtrained by Penalties, others encouraged with Immunities: Wool, Fullers-earth, *&c.* are under the firſt; Exports of Corn, and building Ships of Burden and Force, under the latter: yet Trade in general is free, and the more to the Engliſh Nation by thoſe, which in ſome reſpects are the reſtraining Laws.

The ſecond Paragraph is no more than a farther Confidence in theſe words: " It will be " fully and ſatisfactorily demonſtrated how improbable it is that this Prohibition ſhould an-" ſwer the Ends propoſed by Men deſigning By-ends, moſt of them Foreigners. Theſe are Reflections, and ſuch are uſually made where Reaſons are wanting.

They then come to Matter of Fact, " That the Promoters of the Bill alledg that about " ſixteen Years paſt there was but an inconſiderable Trade at *Canterbury* in making wrought " Silks, Worſted Stuffs, *&c.* but that now the Engliſh Induſtry hath mightily increaſed the " Manufactory, *&c.* To this the Oppoſers of the Prohibition anſwer, (for I omit their Excurſions and Omens) " that the Difference between the Trade then and now aroſe only " from the Dearneſs of thoſe foreign Commodities, and Cheapneſs of *Eaſt-India* Goods, " which were imported in the Years 1683, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, there being a Contention then " between the Company and Interlopers, and not as they pretend; which can be made ap-" pear by the Cuſtom-houſe-Books. I will not uſe the Authors of theſe Reaſons as they do the *Canterbury*-Weavers, in reply to this Anſwer, but take it as it ſeems they do themſelves, and go to the next Particular they bring to ſtrengthen it, in theſe words:

" Beſide, it is allowed that the Trade at *Canterbury* and *Norwich* hath been mightily in-" creaſed this laſt Year, but not at all from the Reaſons they aſſign, but from the Riſe of " Guineas. Theſe Arguments are before great Judges; I ſhall not therefore preſume to cenſure them. But I crave leave to ſay, to me they ſeem no more to ſupport the Importation and Uſe of Indian and Perſian Silk, than it would for a Naturaliſt to aſſign the Cauſe of this open Winter, to his Majeſty's taking *Namur* the laſt Campagn.

The Weavers of *Canterbury* ſay, that ſixteen Years ago, there was but an inconſiderable Trade at *Canterbury*, in making wrought Silks, *&c.* but ſay theſe Gentlement, *The Reaſon is becauſe of the Dearneſs of Foreign Silks, and Cheapneſs of Eaſt-India Goods from twelve to ſeven Years paſt.* How the Cheapneſs of Eaſt-Indian and Perſian Silks can increaſe our Manufactory of Silks, is a Myſtery of an *Eaſt-India* Importation.

But if this be not ſufficient, then the *Riſe of Guineas is, the Dutch buying up all our Manufactories, Lead, Hides,* &c. This to my weak Underſtanding is a good Argument for the *Canterbury*-Weavers; but how it can be made uſe of againſt them, I cannot imagine. It runs thus, The Riſe of Guineas made the Dutch buy up all the Woollen Manufactory the laſt Year, (for they bought no Silk); therefore the Silk Manufactory increaſed for ſeveral Years before at *Canterbury*. Upon the whole Matter it ſeems they do allow the Manufactory greatly increaſed, but differ in the Cauſe of it, and would hinder its Effect and Progreſs, of which the Houſe are beſt Judges.

The next Reaſon they give, is " the preſent War, which hath occaſioned the Vent of all the " Engliſh Commodities. This is not denied, but what is that to the Increaſe of our Silk Manufactory that is not exported? for they ſay, " That it is not the Want of *Eaſt-India* Commodities " that hath increas'd them, for that there hath been more imported in four Years paſt than " there was in twenty Years before. Theſe Gentlemen ſeem very unhappy in bringing Arguments againſt themſelves; for if it be ſo that theſe Commodities ſo mightily increaſe, there may be the greater Reaſon to reſtrain them. And ſince our Engliſh Manufactories cannot abate them, as they have other Foreign Silks, by reaſon of the Cheapneſs of the Eaſt-India and Perſian, then the Parliament have with great Judgment pitch'd upon the way to do it by prohibiting their Wear.

The next thing they bring againſt this Prohibition, is, " That though they allow Raw Silks " are the Product of our Woollen Manufactory, yet, ſay they, if the wearing any Perſian " wrought Silks were prohibited, our Woollen Manufactory would be prohibited alſo among " the Perſians, who ſpend more of this Commodity than any Nation of the World. This Aſſertion is extraordinary, I ſuppoſe there will be enough to anſwer it; nor did I ever hear that at any time went eighty thouſand Pounds worth of our Woollen Manufactory in a Year to the *Eaſt-Indies*, and the Perſians uſe but part of it: but allowing what is ſaid, that the Perſian ſhould prohibit our Woollen Manufactory, tho they who know the Trade wonder at the Argument, yet what is the Loſs if true? They ſay, " This Prohibition would hinder three Parts of the " Trade to the *Eaſt-Indies*. Here, in my humble Opinion, they ſay enough, and there needs no more to confirm the Prohibition, if three Parts in four be returned in Commodities manufactor'd in the *Indies*, and moſt conſumed in this Kingdom: Is the ſending forth one eighth Part of its Purchaſe in our Woollen Manufactory, a Compenſation for the vaſt Treaſure we ſend out in Bullion and Money? They deal fairly in this Confeſſion, and will not deny, for they own it in their following Reaſons, that moſt of theſe Commodities are conſumed in *England*, and they bring it as an Argument, " The improving the Cuſtoms; and that if they ſhould be ſhipp'd " out, it would be a great Loſs to the Cuſtoms. This is indeed the worſt Account that ever appear'd in Print of the *Eaſt-India*-Trade, the only Defence being formerly, that there was more ſhipp'd out than all the Bullion and Money amounted to of *Eaſt-India*-Commodities: but theſe Gentlemen ſay three Parts of four is intirely ſpent at home; and we know of the other Parts, Pepper excepted, moſt is conſumed at home. So then if we come to make a Ballance in that Trade by the Eſtimate theſe Gentlemen make, we need not go to *Flanders* and *Holland*, as they inſinuate, for our Loſs in Trade, but to the *Eaſt-Indies*. It is a melancholy Improvement, if more in four Years hath been conſumed of *Eaſt-India* Commodities than was in twenty Years before.

I cannot ſee the mighty Dependance our Navigation hath on the *Eaſt-India*-Trade; twenty Ships a Year would undo us, if, as theſe Gentlemen ſay, we conſume moſt of that Importation at home.

The next Reaſon they bring againſt this Prohibition is, " The unſpeakable Benefit the Dutch, " Scotch, and other Nations, will have by the Trade, if we do not wear Perſian and Eaſt-India Silks. The Meaning I ſuppoſe is, the Scotch, *&c.* will be made rich.

If this Argument were *tanti*, which to me I confeſs it is not, yet I preſume it would not prevail with many to be content to be made poor, rather than their Neighbours ſhould grow rich: But why we cannot export our Returns from the *Indies* as well as the Scotch and Dutch, I cannot ſee; there is but 2 ½ *per cent.* Duty upon them, theſe Gentlemen own; and if that were a Burden, it were eaſily moved; but we are to be Antipodes to all the World beſide, and increaſe our Treaſure by Importations. If the Scotch and Dutch were to follow our Methods of conſuming moſt of what they import from the *Eaſt-Indies*, they would ſoon be content to reſign to theſe Gentlemen that Trade.

The laſt which I ſuppoſe they bring as the moſt weighty and prevailing Argument, is, that it *will exceedingly diminiſh the King's Cuſtoms.* By this and the whole Current of theſe Gentlemens Arguments, it might be thought all their Conceptions, Words and Underſtandings, were wrapt up in Perſian Silks and Bengals; and if they repeated only thoſe Words to all the Weavers of *Canterbury*, it were as much to the purpoſe as all they here bring againſt them: Their printed Reaſons againſt this Prohibition is to ſhew the Fallacy of the *Canterbury*-Weavers Pretence of the great Increaſe of their Manufactories, which they tell us is not ſo; and for an inconteſtable Proof (to uſe their own Word) bring this, that this Prohibition will greatly abate the Cuſtoms. The Truth on't is, one would think theſe Gentlemen were at Croſs-purpoſes, rather than maintaining an Argument.

Having given ſuch Proof as you ſee againſt the *Canterbury*-Weavers Allegations, they then come to Predictions, and ſay, " This Prohibition will never be an Incouragement to the ma- " king of Silks in *England*, except the wearing of Silks made in *Holland*, *Italy*, &c. be prohi- " bited alſo. I wiſh I could let this Paragraph paſs, becauſe it will expoſe theſe Gentlemen too much, I will only deſire them to look back on their own Paper in the fourth and fifth Paragraphs, and there ſee whether they do not allow that there is a great Increaſe of the *Canterbury* and *Norwich* Manufactories, and at the ſame time ſay, that the Eaſt-India and Perſian Silks

have

have increaſed five to one; it is then plain that our Manufactories have abated the Dutch and Italian Silks without a Prohibition, and ſo they would the Eaſt-Indian and Perſian if they were not imported cheaper than they can be made in *Europe*.

They then tell us, that the Allegation of the Weavers that this Prohibition will open a way for imploying a great many Weavers, *&c.* " is as frivolous and inſignificant as any of " the reſt, ſeeing it may be turned upon themſelves, that Dying, Printing, *&c.* of *Eaſt-*" *India* wrought Silks imploys many thouſands of Perſons. May not both be true? tho it is ſaid the latter is doubted: but were that true, where is the Conſequence that the Silk and Woollen Manufactory of *England* can never be improved, becauſe there are now many Hands imployed in Preſſing, Dying, *&c.* of *Eaſt-India* and *Perſian* Silk, which will be all undone for want of Work, when there is a Prohibition of the Wear of *Eaſt-India* and *Perſian* Silks? Now to any European underſtanding, it would ſeem that taking of Hands from one Imployment and putting them to another, would inlarge the latter. I omit the Reflections they make on the *Canterbury*-Weavers being Foreigners, intending to ſpeak a little of it in the Cloſe, and ſo come to their many more Reaſons that might be ſuggeſted to prove, that it is directly againſt the Intereſt of the Nation, and in Concluſion will prove fatal to thoſe Manufactories in whoſe favour it is made: and the reaſon they give for this Aſſertion is, " Becauſe they " (*meaning I ſuppoſe the* Canterbury-*Weavers*) have falſly inſinuated the increaſe of their " Trade to have proceeded from the Scarcity of theſe imported Foreign Commodities, when " it is occaſioned by nothing but the riſe of Guinea's, our Miſcarriages in the Wars, and " the continual Demands and Exactions from abroad.

Here with their Favour I think they reflect upon the Government, *Continual Demands and Exactions from abroad*, are hard Words: But what uſe could they make of this were it all true? *Firſt*, They deny that the Manufactories of *Canterbury* are increaſed, but that it was the great quantities of *Perſian* and *Eaſt-Indian* Silks that were imported here, that beat out the *French*, *Italian* and *Dutch* Silks: Now they own the increaſe of the *Canterbury* Manufactories, but ſay it roſe from the Wars, *&c.* And yet theſe Wars and Exactions they talk of, happen'd ſome Years after the Increaſe and Growth of our Silk-Manufactories.

They conclude with repeating what they had before mentioned, though in other Words, *viz. Since the Nature of Trade is to exchange one Commodity for another, if we prohibit, the* Perſian *will do the ſame.* If what they uſe here in Argument, were practiſed in the Trade they labour to ſupport, the Diſpute would be over; but by their own ſaying it is juſt the contrary: when they import at leaſt fifteen hundred thouſand Pounds value in Manufactor'd Commodities, and carry not two hundred thouſand Pounds worth out of ours, the Overplus muſt then be purchaſed with Money; and were their Profits Out and Home four for one, yet the Loſs muſt be great to the Nation upon the Ballance.

I ſhall now make ſome few Remarks upon the whole Matter.

And firſt ſhew, what Detriment the uſe of *Eaſt-Indian* and *Perſian* Silks, Bengalls, *&c.* have brought to our Woollen Manufactories. I have been told by ſeveral antient Mercers, and other Dealers in Woollen Manufactories, that ſince the great Conſumption of *Eaſt-India* Manufactories, the uſe of Tammies, Sayes, and ſome fine Stuffs for Womens Wear, is in a manner quite loſt, and that they now ſell not a twentieth part ſo much as they formerly did, and that they believe it hath abated ſeveral hundred thouſand Pounds *per Annum* of the Woollen Manufactory.

The wear of *Eaſt-Indian* and *Perſian* Commodities doth alſo leſſen our Silk Manufactories to a great Degree, eſpecially if what theſe Gentlemen ſay be true, of the Quantity brought in.

And if their Maxim in Trade be true, That there muſt be no Prohibition of Foreign Manufactories, becauſe they will turn the ſame upon us, our Condition is deſperate; for by the ſame Rule all Nations may impoſe on us whatever Manufactories they think fit to make, and if we prohibit their uſe, they will take nothing from us.

But ſuppoſe, which is not impoſſible, that we ſhould grow ſo poor as not to be able to purchaſe or conſume their Commodities, muſt we then loſe that Trade? if ſo, there ſeems Reaſon for us to quit it while we have ſome Money left, and not out of Neceſſity.

Inſtances may be given that ſhew the Miſchief of admitting the Increaſe and Conſumption of Foreign Commodities, beyond the Exports of our own Product to purchaſe.

That of *French* Wine, until the Year fifty five, all the Imports of *French* Wine amounted not to four thouſand Tuns *per Annum*, and then they were bought in *France*, Langoons at thirty Crowns, and *Grave* for twenty four Crowns, and purchaſed all with Commodities, and we had an over-Ballance in Money; but by degrees we increas'd our Importation to that vaſt Expence, that in the Year ſeventy ſix, we imported 36000 Tun, and then paid 45 Crowns for Langoon, and as much for Graves Claret, and great part purchas'd with Money, or Bills of Exchange which is the ſame; and as we have increas'd in the French, ſo we have in the Spaniſh, and raiſed the Price of Canaries from ten to twenty Pounds the Pipe in the Countrey.

I might name ſeveral other Commodities, but this may be ſufficient to caution the Nation before it be too late, what ever ſome others may argue out of private Intereſt, as they do for raiſing Coin.

It ſeems eſſential for the Preſervation of a Kingdom, to keep what Money they can in it, we find it ſo in this War; the *French* might have been Maſters of us and *Europe* too, had not *England* been maſters of Money: and there is no way to be ſo but by Regulating Trade, and perhaps the Parliament could not have fallen upon any one Branch of it that wants it more than this of the *Eaſt-India* Trade. We are above any Nation in the World ſooneſt drawn into Luxury and Gayety, and that Trade contributeth more to it than any we have beſide; and whatever is ſaid in defence of it, no Trade in proportion to its Imports takes ſo little from us of our Commodities. And that which in my humble Opinion ſhould be with greateſt Remark noted on that part of it to which this Prohibition relates, is, that *it wounds our Woollen Manufactory* more than all the other Trade we have in the World: for tho ſome of them take off but little from us, yet none hinder our own Conſumption, and command the uſe of theirs but this of the *Eaſt-Indies*; for ſo theſe Gentlemen in plain words tell us we muſt be ſerv'd, or lie under the great Diſpleaſure of thoſe Princes, and Prohibition of our Woollen Manufactory. The Threats I muſt own are great, but when I conſider the Penalty, that ſeems ſmall, to loſe the vent of part of an hundred thouſand Pounds Value *per Annum* of our Manufactories, if we will not ſubmit to the Expence of fifteen hundred thouſand Pounds Value of their Manufactories.

I humbly conceive there needs no explaining this matter; and were there any thing in what they ſay, yet perhaps the great Council of the Nation will not think *Manifeſto*'s and *Memoirs* put in by the King's Subjects in behalf of Foreign Princes, of weight to alter their Reſolutions in the Trade of the Nation: if it ſhould, we are precarious in all the Commerce of the Nation; for there will not want Men for every Part to ſay as much for their private Gain, as theſe Gentlemen do for theirs. I ſhall ſay no more in Anſwer to the Reaſons given to the Oppoſers of this Prohibition, but only what I promiſed in the foregoing Lines in relation to the Foreigners they expreſs ſo much Reſentments againſt; and tho they are very ſevere in their Expreſſions, yet conſidering how they uſe their own Cauſe, which I think no one could worſe than they have done themſelves, they may be excuſed, otherwiſe they might be thought more than uncharitable. I remember a Gentleman in the Houſe of Commons ſpeaking ſomething that diſpleaſed the Houſe, and being called upon to explain himſelf, which he not being able to do, was admitted to tell what he meant by the words he ſpake; after a little pauſe, he ſaid he had no meaning. Such an Excuſe perhaps may be the beſt theſe Gentlemen can make for ſaying, the *Canterbury*-Weavers, *being French, Dutch, and Walloons, make little ſcruple of benefiting themſelves to the damage of the Publick.* I deſire theſe Gentlemen that are ſo much againſt Foreigners living in the Kingdom, to look back and ſee who firſt brought in our Woollen Manufactory, which is and muſt be while we are a free People our Treaſure and Strength; with it we do, and without it we cannot ſupport our Navigation, not by fetching wrought Silks, *&c.* from the *Eaſt-Indies.*

I pray theſe Gentlemen farther to conſider, for it may be in their own Memory, who firſt introduced and improv'd our Silk-Manufactory, which is ſo grown that it prevents the Importation of many hundred thouſand Pounds *per Annum* Value of Foreign wrought Silks. I muſt alſo pray them to conſider how many worthy Families there are in *Norfolk*, *Suffolk*, *Kent* and *London*, whoſe Original was *Flemings*, *Walloons*, and *French*, that are now become as much Engliſh-men as our ſelves. I would gladly know what makes an Engliſh-man. We cannot derive as the Jews from one Father; I own my Original from the *Danes*, another from the *Saxons*, a third from the *Normans*, yet by continuance of Time and Intermarriages we are one People; and ſo are thouſands that came over in the Reign of Queen *Elizabeth:* and I think it one of the Bleſſings of this Reign, that Incouragement and Proviſion is made for Foreign Proteſtants, which I have often ſaid before I had ſo good Authority as the King's recommending, and the Parliament's voting them a Relief, I know nothing we ſo much want as Bodies of Men, and it ſhews a narrow Underſtanding to diſcourage their Increaſe: It was an early Policy we find in the infallible Author, even to the Change of their Religion, *To purchaſe a Family, and gave Reaſon for it, Shall not their Cattel and their Subſtance,* &c. *be ours?*

To me there ſeems much more Reaſon for to bring in the Hands that work, than the Manufactory made by them: But to carry Patterns of our Faſhions into the *Indies*, where Silks are made cheaper than they can be in *Europe*, as theſe Gentlemen have done, ſhews them Enemies to the Nation. But ſuch Foreigners as incorporate among us, ſeem better Friends when of our Religion, and come to us for Refuge; and ſure we ought as Chriſtians to imbrace them: I think few will join with thoſe that declaim againſt them for making thoſe Manufactories at Home, that theſe Gentlemen would impoſe upon the Nation from the *Eaſt-Indies.*

F I N I S.

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AN ANSWER TO THE Moſt Material Objections

Made by the LINNEN-DRAPERS, *Againſt the Bill which reſtrains the Wearing* Eaſt-India *wrought Silks*, &c. *in* England; *Humbly Submitted to the Conſideration of the Moſt Honourable Houſe of Lords.*

K. William III. King &c.

Object. THAT *the Weavers are now ſo full of Employment, That if this Bill ſhould paſs, there would be ſo great a want of Hands, they would raiſe the prices of their Goods to an Extravagant Rate.*

Anſw. That in the Spring of the Year, the *Weavers* of *London, Norwich, Canterbury*, &c. (ſince the ſcarcity and dearneſs of *Eaſt-India* Silks) have been well Employed; but in the latter part of the Year, there is generally in theſe Places great Numbers which want work; beſides there are a great many large Towns in *England*, where there is no Manufacture of any ſort, in which there are vaſt Numbers of Poor which want Work, and wholly ſubſiſt on the Bounty of their Neighbours and Pariſhes, which if this Bill paſs may be Employed in theſe Manufactures: And its morally impoſſible for ſuch Multitudes of People, at ſo many differing Places, and of ſo many different Intereſts to combine together to keep up Prices for Goods, beyond their real value; and as our Manufactures encreaſe, the *Merchants* will give larger Orders for raw Silk, and thereby Export more of our Woollen Manufactures; the *Farmers* will encreaſe his breed of Sheep all over the Kingdom; there being large tracts of Land (which now are uſeleſs) very proper for that purpoſe, to the great Encouragement of the Owners and Proprietors thereof.

Object. *That the wearing our own Manufactures at home, does not make us the Richer; and that its the Intereſt of the Nation to wear* Eaſt-India *Goods which are cheap, and Export our own which are dearer.*

Anſw. It's true, That what we conſume at home of our own Manufactures does not make us the Richer. But it is as true, that whatever we conſume at home of Forreign Manufactures purchaſed with our *Bullion* (as *Eaſt-India wrought Silks and Callicoes*, &c.) does really make us ſo much the Poorer, as is the Coſt of thoſe Manufactures. And for the other part of the Objection, there can be no Argument in it, unleſs the *Linnen Drapers* could make out, that the more we conſume of *Eaſt-India* Goods at home, the more we ſhould ſend abroad of our own, which they have not, nor cannot pretend to Demonſtrate. But the contrary is manifeſt, if it be conſidered, that *Turkey* and *Italy*, which takes off moſt of our Woollen Manufactures, can ſend us nothing in return of our Manufactures, but *Raw Silk*, and *Grogorum Yarn*, which can be of no uſe to us, if by wearing *Eaſt-India Silks*, &c. we deſtroy thoſe Manufactures which work up this Silk and Yarn; ſo that the plain Conſequence will be this: Wearing *Eaſt-India Silks*, &c. at home, will force us to quit thoſe profitable Trades of *Turkey* and *Italy*, which take off vaſt quantities of our Woollen Manufactures, and leave them to the *Dutch* and *French*, and will thereby greatly deſtroy the Exportation of our Woollen Manufactures abroad, and impoverish *Four or Five Hundred Thouſand Perſons*, who depend on theſe Manufactures at home.

Object. *That if* India Silks, *and* Printed Callicoes *are not worn in* England, *we ſhall uſe* Dutch *and* Italian *Silks, and* German *and* Scotch *Linnen in their Place, which will coſt the Nation Dearer.*

Anſw.

Anſw. The *Parliament* of *England*, has at all times had ſuch a particular Care of the *Manufactures of England*, that there has been ſuch Prohibitions and Impoſitions on Forreign Manufactures, that the Manufacturors do now labour under no great difficulties from any Place but *India*. For about Seven Years ſince there was an additional Duty laid on all *Dutch* and *Italian* wrought Silks; that with what was paid before, there is now 20 *per Cent.* on all Silks from thoſe Countries, which has ſo hindred the *Dutch* from Importing flowred Silks upon us, that there has not been ſo much as one Caſe of theſe Goods Imported theſe Six Years; nor is it poſſible for them to do it, whilſt this Duty continues. And for the *Italians*, their Imports on us ſince this Act, has yearly declined, and are now ſo inconſiderable, that they are not worth the Name of Importation, the *Engliſh* Manufacturers being now come to ſo great a Perfection, that they make them better, and (by vertue of the Duty) do alſo afford them Cheaper than the *Dutch* or *Italians* can poſſibly do. And ſince thoſe Countries which take off ſo many of our Manufactures, are already taken care of by the Parliament, that they cannot hurt us. The Manufacturers make no queſtion, but that this moſt Honourable Houſe will join with the Commons of *England* in paſſing this Bill, which only hinders the home Conſumption of thoſe Goods which are bought with our Money in *India*, and will inevitably deſtroy ſo many *Thouſand Families*: And for the *Scotch* and *German* Linnens, what they object will be uſed inſtead of *Painted Callicoes*, and will coſt the Nation dearer. There is no neceſſity for their uſe; for we now make ſuch variety of things in *England*, with Silk and Worſted, and with Cotten Yarn from our Plantations, that do in a great meaſure ſupply the uſes of thoſe Linnens. Beſides it's Humbly Submitted, Whether it be not much better to Encourage the Linnens of thoſe Nations (though dearer) which take off our Woollen Manufactures, as *Scotland* and *Germany* does in conſiderable quantities; then the Painted Linnens from *India* (though cheaper) which does not, nor cannot Conſume any quantity of our Manufactures; there being now within theſe few days, Letters from *India* which give an Account, that the Cloth which has been ſent thither, is *ſo burthenſome*, that they know not what to do with it, there being no Sale for it in that Hot Country. And whatever is Exported by the Company, muſt of neceſſity be ſent into *Perſia*, which will conſequently oblige the *Turkey Merchants* to ſend the leſſer quantities into thoſe Places, and ſo no Advantage to this Kingdom.

Object. *That this Prohibition will abate the King's Cuſtoms.*

Anſw. The Abatements in Cuſtoms in theſe Goods will be but ſmall, in regard there will be much greater quantities of *China* Raw Silk, Cotton and Bengal Imported, then would otherwiſe be done; and the ſmall Abatement that may be will be inconſiderable, if compared with the greater Loſs that will be on the Cuſtoms of *Tobacco*, *Brandy*, &c. and *Exciſe* on *Beer*, &c. if the Employment of the Poor be taken away, and they *obliged to go to Foreign Nations* for want of Work.

Arguments might be Raiſed for the Bill *ad Infinitum*, but the Manufacturers of *England*, do ſo entirely depend on your *Lordſhips*, that they will only add their Prayers, that the *Bleſſings of Heaven* may always accompany your Lordſhips and your Poſterity, for the conſtant *encouragement* that has been (and we truſt will be) given by your *Lordſhips*, to the Multitudes of Poor Families of your own Native Country.

An ANSWE
TO THE
Moſt Material Objecti
Made by the *Linnen-Dra*
againſt the Bill which
ſtrains the Wearing *I*
India Wrought Silks, &
England.

An ANSWER to some of the Linnen-Drapers Objections.

First, THey Object, *The Indians will not sell us their Raw Silk and Salt Petre, unless we will take their Wrought Silks*, &c.

Answer. Why did not the *Indians* deny us their Raw Silk and Salt Petre sixteen years ago? For then little or no Manufactured Goods was brought over. We will shew your Lordships an Instance of this kind: The Turky Company brought over, Forty or Fifty years ago, great quantities of Mohairs and Grogorams; and although at this time we take not one Piece of them, yet they take our Cloths and Stuffs as freely as before; and we have in Return greater quantities of Raw Silk and Grogoram Yarn than before, which Employs our Poor, spends our Growth, and is of great Advantage to the Nation.

Secondly, They Object, *That we cannot make our Manufactured Goods so cheap as the* Indians.

Answ. Ours will be as cheap in time, (if this Restraint be not laid upon theirs) but then the Price of Land will fall accordingly: For we humbly conceive, Your Lordships will Grant, That there must be a Proportion betwixt the Price of Labour and the Value of Land; for Example, If a Man works for Two Pence a day, he must buy Beef for a Farthing *per* pound, and his Bread, Drink, and Cloathes proportionable, or starve; and the Farmer must have his Land accordingly, or he cannot pay his Rent; and so it is plain, the Value of Land and Workmens Labour will go together.

They would have us wear their slight Shadows and rotten Calicoes in *England*, and send our own Manufactures abroad.

This shews plainly, they design the Ruine of our Home Manufactures; for where can we find Markets that will take off such vast quantities as we spend at Home? Besides, 'tis more proper for them to carry abroad their *East India* Silks, *&c.* For it is the Blessing of Heaven, that we have so good Woollen Stuffs of all sorts to wear in this cold Climate: And not only so, but we are able to demonstrate it to Your Lordships, That if Encouragement be given, we can furnish all Forreign Markets: The truth of this is demonstrable by what their Council declared, That the Weavers were encreased from One to Thirty in twenty years time; now if Your Lordships be pleased to consider, that as the Weavers encrease, so do their Dependants, as Combers, Spinsters, Dyers, Callenders, *&c.* and Throwsters of all sorts; and as all these encrease, so much more of the Growth of the Nation is Manufactured to send abroad, which bringing Returns in unmanufactured Goods, when work'd up, will be sent out again, and this will bring the King double Custom.

Thirdly, They Object, *We want Hands, and cannot make Goods to Answer the Use of* India *Silks*, &c.

Answer. We have not half Work enough for the Hands we have already: But if we want Hands, we may set up Factories in a great many Cities and Populous Towns in *England*, that would be glad of Work at a much cheaper Rate than we now give, (which will remove the Linnen-Drapers groundless Assertion as to the Rise of Goods, for it will certainly make them Cheaper) and then if the Company will bring us greater quantities of Raw Bengal and Cheny Silk, and fine-spun Cotton, all which we want in vast quantities, to mix with Wooll, and for Warps for Antherines, which answers the Use, and is better and cheaper than *Persian* Silks, and is Nine parts in Ten English Wooll: But if the Company will be angry, and will bring nothing but what will ruine our Home-Manufactures, there are others that will undertake to Trade thither, and bring nothing but what is for the Good of the Nation. As for Calicoes, our Tammies and Tammarines, Says, and Stuffs of all sorts, made of Wooll, Figured or Printed, will do better, and were better approved of before Calicoes were in use: However *Scotch* and *Irish* Linnen, which we have in Return for our own Manufactures, as we can prove, will be cheaper to us than Calicoes bought with our Money.

As for Mr. *Wise* saying, That One Weaver told him, he would raise his Goods if the Bill pass'd, it is very insignificant; for what is One to Five Hundred Thousand? And it is also a thing impossible; besides, he is an *Indian-Gown-Man*, and was a great Strickler against that Bill, and set his Hand to a Petition against it, and therefore we cannot tell what he meant in appearing as a Witness for the Bill.

But we entirely trust in Your Lordships Great Wisdom and Care for us, and that you will never throw this Bill out, which is not only for the good of Landlord, but also of the Tennant, the Artificer and Labourer, even the whole Nation, except a few *East India Men* and *Linnen-Drapers*, which are all nothing in comparison of the Lands of *England*, its Noble Growth, and its Growing and Encreasing Manufacturies.

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THE Linnen Drapers Anſwer

To that Part of

Mr. CARY his Eſſay on Trade,

That Concerns

The Eaſt India Trade.

THAT that Trade is advantageous to *England*, which exports our Product, imports Commodities to be manufactured, furniſheth us with Neceſſaries for Forreign Trade, and increaſeth Seamen, is a Truth beyond Contradiction.

But that all Trade is to be abandoned, that doth not anſwer all theſe Ends, or that the Intereſt of *England* and *Holland*, in reſpect to Trade, and the advantage made thereby, is not the ſame, is that which muſt be conſidered.

It is alſo true, particular perſons may improve their Eſtates by Buying and Selling, and the Nation be never the Richer; this holds good in all Inland Trade and our Home Conſumption: but how this can be properly applied to any Forreign Trade, or particularly to that of the *Eaſt Indies*, which in ſome degree anſwers all the fore-mentioned Advantages of Trade to *England*, is that our Eſſayer is to make out.

To allow (what he ſaith is allowed) that the Product and Manufacture of the Kingdom, is the leaſt part of what the *Eaſt India* Company export to *India*, is his allowing that it is a part of that Exportation (and we may inform him it doth appear upon Oath, that *Communibus Annis*, ever ſince the Company's New Charter, they have Exported above a Hundred thouſand Pounds worth of Cloth yearly, and that Gold and Silver is but another part. He forgot to add, that every Ship ſet to Sea on an *Eaſt India* Voyage, coſt Ten thouſand Pounds at leaſt, one with the other; that what of this is not laid out in Beef, Pork, Peaſe, Biſket, and the Produce of the Kingdom, is expended about the Ship, her Rigging, in labour and incouraging Uſeful Arts, *&c.* altogether as much to the Kingdoms advantage as the other.

That theſe Ships are as uſeful to the Government, upon any Emergency, as to Trade, and that it is the Intereſt of the Nation to incourage ſuch Ships.

The returns of what is Exported to the *East-Indies*, being Granted to be in Commodities neceſſary, as well for Home expence as Exportation (Callicoes and wrought Silks excepted) if we make appear the uſe of Callicoes and Wrought Silks doth not prejudice, but increaſe the Sale of Woollen Manufactures: We hope the Eſſayer will ſee reaſon why the Wearing of them ſhould not be Prohibited, and that he will not Petition the Parliament againſt the uſe of them in *England*.

We deſire he would not expect, we ſhould follow him into *Germany* to plead their Cauſe againſt *Sletias* Linnens. We will indeavour to convince him, that the improvement of the Woollen Manufactures in *Germany* was not occaſioned by the Importation and uſe of Callicoes in *England*; that Manufacture being ſet on foot before the Fire of *London*, when the *East-India* Trade was nothing ſo conſiderable, and Callicoes much dearer then they have been ſince; and that the cheapneſs of Callicoes may be a means (if any thing can) to put them by that improvement: This is all he may expect from us on that Head.

The preſent War, as we underſtand, hath put a ſtop to the Progreſs of the Woollen Manufacture in *Germany*. If *England* can afford ours ſo cheap, that they may not have incouragement to begin it again, that Controverſie is at an end. Plenty of Callicoes is a certain Expedient to moderate the price of all Commodities, and thereby preſerves and increaſes the Forreign Trade (which is the profitable Trade of *England*) and Regulate the Home. To Prohibit the uſe, is to Prohibit the Importation, and deſtroy all; ſo that the Germans will return again to their making of Woollen, not becauſe they cannot find Vent for their Linnen, but becauſe not being ſupplied at Reaſonable Rates from us; returning to the Woollen is more to their advantage.

We will not Reflect on our Eſſayers Ingenious Deſcants on the Extravagances of the Age, his good Advice to the Nobility and Gentry, nor his Propoſals to the Government; we wiſh him good Succeſs in it. Our difference with him is upon his miſtaken Maxims, That the way to improve the Engliſh, is to Prohibit the uſe of Forreign Manufactures; and that to inrich the Kingdom, is to confine its Growth to our own Dominions; not conſidering that if we prohibit the uſe of the Commodities of other Nations, they may, and in all probability will do the ſame by ours; and that this will prejudice our Forreign Trade, and that the very Prohibition is inſenſibly laying a Tax on the Nation, to make us pay the more for what we uſe, and abridging the King of ſo much Cuſtom which the Subject muſt make good.

We ſay it is the Intereſt of the Kingdom, that the Home Conſumption ſhould be little, of a Cheap and Forreign Growth, and that our own Manufactures ſhould be ſpent abroad and at the higheſt Market; becauſe by all that is ſpent at home, one loſeth what another gets, the Nation is not the richer. But a Forreign

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Conſumption is clear profit, adds to the heap, without taking from the Inhabitant.

The Trade of any Nation is its Riches, how it comes to paſs that our Eſſayer hath made Trade of leſs advantage to *England* than *Holland*, is the next thing to be inquired into.

He tells us the Dutch have little Land, are rather maintained by Buying and Selling, then Manufacturing; but *England* is a large Spot of Ground, hath a great Product of its own, gets by the Imployment of its People; and concludes its the Wiſdom of the Government to Regulate Forreign Trade by Methods that may make it uſeful in Promoting our own Manufactures.

True it is *England* hath more Land than *Holland*, and a greater Product of its own; but this is no Argument that it is not the Intereſt of *England* as well as *Holland*, to incourage and promote Commerce. We ſay we are an Iſland better accommodated to and more immediately depending on Trade (eſpecially Forreign Trade) than *Holland* it ſelf. Our Ships are our Walls, our Trade our Riches. We are ſituated by Nature to be the Mart of *Europe*, it is the Reſtraint upon us (becauſe *England* is not a Free Port) that all Trade doth not Center here. To prohibit the uſe of Forreign Manufactures, were ſtill to do us farther miſchief; this would render our Shipping uſeleſs and leſſen Navigation: and in our Naval Force lies not only the Welfare, but the very Being of Our Nation.

It is the undoubted Intereſt of *England* to incourage our own Manufactures, and in proportion to their uſefulneſs and benefit, ſuch ſhould be their incouragement. We differ with the Eſſayer only about the method.

We conclude from daily experience it can be done by no Law ſo effectually, as by leaving Trade free and ſheltering it againſt all Prohibitions. He from an evil and covetous Principle, like the Dog in the Fable, would catch at the ſhadow and loſe the ſubſtance.

The Manufactures in *Holland*, in proportion to their Hands, equal, if not exceed ours in *England*: If we have more of the Woollen, they have more of Linnen and Silk. It was once a received opinion amongſt them, that the uſe of Callicoes did prejudice their Linnen Manufacture, and therefore they Prohibited the uſe of it in *Holland* (they were not ſo quick ſighted as our Eſſayer to ſee that it did affect the Woollen.) This gave advantage to our Engliſh *Eaſt-India* Company, that *England* at that time had the whole Trade for Callicoes: The Dutch are an Ingenious people, and ſoon ſaw their Errour, and recalled their Placeat, but could never retrive the Trade: The Engliſh *Eaſt-India* Company kept that part of it to the time of this French War, that by Inteſtine Fewds and Forreign misfortunes, they have loſt both it and themſelves.

The Prohibition of the uſe of theſe Commodities in *England*, will either ſettle this Noble Trade on the Scots, or divide it between them and the Dutch. The Engliſh Manufacture will be prejudi-

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ced, not advantaged thereby: It will advance the price at Home, and ſo leſſen the Trade, but not augment the Sale; and render it unfit for a Forreign Market, becauſe they may be ſupplied cheaper elſewhere.

We conclude with the Eſſayer, and Humbly pray the Wiſdom of the Nation would undertake the Patronage of our Trade, and particularly this of the *Eaſt-Indies*; to ſettle it on its True Baſis, to make it a real advantage to the Kingdom, which can never be effectually done, but by leaving it free to that Company, they in their Wiſdom ſhall think fit to Eſtabliſh, that every Commodity may ſhift for it ſelf.

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A REPLY to a Paper delivered to the Right Honourable the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, Entituled, The Linnen-Drapers Anſwer to that part of Mr. *Cary*'s Eſſay on Trade that concerns the *Eaſt-India* Trade.

THE Arguments therein uſed againſt prohibiting the wearing *Eaſt-India* wrought Silks and Calicoes in *England*, may be reduced to theſe Heads.

That plenty of Calicoes is a certain Expedient to moderate the Priſes of all our Woollen Manufactures, and thereby to preſerve and encreaſe the Forreign Trade, and regulate the home; and that the uſe of Calicoes in England *is a more effectual way to beat* Germany *out of making Woollen Manufactures, than our refuſing their Linnens would be.*

That the prohibiting the uſe of the Commodities of other Nations will make them do the ſame by ours.

That there will be a great abatement in the King's *Cuſtoms if* Indian *Silks and Calicoes be prohibited to be worn in* England.

That a Home-Conſumption is no advantage to a Nation, but that a Forreign Conſumption is clear profit; therefore we were better uſe Indian *Silks and Calicoes at home, which are cheaper than our own Manufactures, and ſend them abroad to Forreign Markets.*

That Trade or Commerce being the Riches of this Nation, ought to be free, ſheltered againſt all Prohibitions; That this hath been the Practice of Holland, *whoſe Example we ſhould follow in taking off all Reſtraints from Commerce.*

That the Dutch *did once prohibit the uſe of Calicoes, which gave* England *advantage to beat them out of that Trade, but that they ſoon found their Errour, and therefore recalled their Placeat, but could never retrieve their Trade.*

That the prohibiting theſe Commodities to be worn in England, *will either ſettle that noble Trade (as they call it) on the* Scotch, *or divide it between them and the* Dutch.

That this will prejudice our Woollen Manufactures, inaſmuch as it will advance their Prices at home, and thereby leſſen their Sales abroad, becauſe Forreign Markets will be ſupplied cheaper elſewhere.

That it will hinder Navigation.

The Force of theſe Arguments, I confeſs, I do not underſtand, or how they ſhould prevail on a Nation, whoſe Wealth ariſes from the Labour of its People, to encourage the Importation of Forreign Manufactures to be worn here, and thereby prevent the uſe of its own.

England is happy in a People who of their own Natures incline to Labour, and though ſome idle Vagrants herd among them, yet the Generality delight to be employed. We are able to make *Woollen Manufactures* enough to ſupply not only our Home Expence, but all *Europe*, and have Thouſands of People, who either do nothing, or follow Employments altogether unprofitable to the Nation, but might be advantageouſly ſet at work on *our Manufactures*; we need not wear *India Silks* and *Calicoes* at Home, that we may thereby have *Manufactures* enough to carry abroad, or leſt by ſupplying both Expences they ſhould become too dear for a Forreign vent, if our People were ſet at work: Nor ſhould we want Wooll to make them, having large Tracts of Land unoccupied whereon great Flocks of Sheep might be fed, had we a ſuitable Expence; but inſtead thereof we have generally great quantities lying on the Growers hands, who encourage the ſending it to *France*, becauſe they cannot find vent at home; by which means greater quantities of Manufactures are made with it abroad than the ſame Wooll would make here; for being mixt with the Wooll of that Country, which could not elſe be wrought up of it ſelf, thoſe Markets are ſupplyed, which muſt otherwiſe be furniſhed hence; now if the wearing *our Woollen Manufactures* were encouraged, our Wooll would be wrought up here, and ſo the Expence encreaſed, and *France*, not being able to work up its own Wooll by it ſelf, muſt deſiſt in its Manufactures, and ſo our Forreign Trade would be encreaſed; for this is certain, that there is not a piece of Broad-cloath or New Drapery made in *France* without the help of our Wooll. I cannot here omit a Diſcourſe I once had with a Gentleman of *Rumney Marſh* about the damage ſuſtained by the Nation in its *Manufactures* by their ſelling their Wooll to *France*: He agreed the Matter of Fact, and told me the only Reaſon was want of a vent

at home, many of their Tenants having Three years Wooll on their hands; now ſaith he, find out a way how we ſhall have Money for our Wooll once a year, and we will ſoon rid you of that Evil. If this be true, I know no better than by working it up; and this can never be promoted by diſuſing the Commodities made of it, and wearing *Indian Silks* and *Calicoes* in their room: If this was done, and the Manufactury in *France* diſcouraged, 'twould exceedingly add to the value as well as the vent of our Manufactures.

The City of *Briſtol* hath within Seven years laſt paſt encreaſed their Stuff-making from Sixty pounds *per* Week to one Thouſand, by the help of the *French Refugees* ſetled there; which ſhews, that if we can find Sales for *our Manufactures*, we ſhall want neither Men nor Materials to make them.

'Tis an Artifice to ſay that the *Germains* abated their making of Linnen becauſe *our Woollen Manufactures* were dear; for 'tis well known they have not advanced, but fallen in their Prices ſince the growth of Calicoes upon us: but had they been ever ſo cheap, if we refuſe to barter them for their Linnens, and encourage the wearing Calicoes here in their ſteads, as their Sales grew ſlack, ſo their People muſt either ſtand idle, or employ themſelves in ſomething elſe, and they thought nothing ſo proper as Woollen, by which means they paid us in our own Coin, and found a way to ſupply themſelves with our Manufactures as cheap, as when purchaſed from us in Barter for their Linnens.

The *Spaniards* would wonder to ſee us come cloathed in Calicoes to ſell them *our Woollen Manufactures*; I am ſure they could not think we much encouraged their wearing them by our own Examples.

I agree that it is not wiſdom for us to prohibit the uſe of the Commodities of other Nations who take off ours in their ſtead; but how this Argument will hold to encourage the wearing *Indian Silks* and *Calicoes* in *England*, I cannot ſee, unleſs 'tis made out that they are the Returns of our Product and Manufactures, and not of our Money; which the *Linnen Drapers* do not offer to prove.

As to the loſs on the *King's Cuſtoms*, by denying the uſe of thoſe two Commodities which pay ſo much at their Importation, ſeems an Argument made up rather of Shadow then Subſtance; this being only a *Modus*, of raiſing Money, which ſtill comes out of the Subjects Pockets, and if not done this way may another, for by the ſame reaſon an Argument may be framed for the Exportation of Wool; but how this would be *Englands* Advantage, I leave the Gentlemen who uſe the Argument to judge.

'Tis true, that the Profits of a Nation do not ariſe from its Home Conſumption; but how this ſhould be an Argument for the uſe of Forreign Manufactures inſtead of our own, whilſt our People ſtand ſtill for want of Imployment, I cannot imagine; if it be affirmed that *Indian Silks* and *Calicoes* are cheaper than *our own Manufactures*, 'tis a great Error: The laſt coſts us nothing but Labour, above the Materials whereof they are made; and ſince our People muſt be maintained though they be idle, that is all profit to the Nation: And therefore *German* and *Scotch Linnens* when purchaſed for *our Manufactures*, are much cheaper to us than *Calicoes*, though bought for Bullion in the *Eaſt-Indies* at one third part they are ſold for here, one pound of Wooll by the Labour of the People added to it, yielding in *Manufactures* from four to twenty times what it coſt firſt penny to the Grower, which Wooll being alſo the Product of Earth and Labour is all gain to the Nation.

As to the Propoſition that Trade ſhould be free, I allow, if 'tis thereby meant that Trade ſhould not be monopolized by Joint Stocks; but if the *Linnen Drapers* mean that no Reſtraint muſt be uſed in regulating Forreign Trade, 'tis a Maxim they cannot defend; What do they think of the Act of Navigation? the Prohibition laid on *French* Goods, where the Balance of Trade went always againſt us? the Act for Regulating the Importation and Exportation of Corn? and many other Statutes, which have been by all adjudged *England's* Advantage? But more eſpecially, what do they think of the Acts againſt Exportation of Wooll, and Importation of Woollen Cloth, made by King *Edward* the third, who in his Voyages to *Flanders* and *Brabant*, obſerving that the People of thoſe Countries were maintained by manufacturing *Engliſh Wooll*, by prohibiting it to be carried out, and encouraging the *Manufacturers* to ſettle here, laid the Foundation of the Greatneſs of this Kingdom; for by theſe *Manufactures* we grow rich, and gather the Wealth of the *Indies*, whilſt the *Spaniard* is unable to ſupport the Charge of his Government, though the firſt Proprietor of this Treaſure, becauſe all he buys is purchaſed, either for Silver, or bare Product, without adding any value to the latter by the Labour of the People.

The Example offered of the *Dutch* in this Caſe is not to be followed, their Modus of Trade is adopted to their Conſtitution, which will not at all agree with ours; the ſame Trade by which the *Dutch* grow rich, would ſoon ruine *England*; the Intereſt of *Holland* in Trade is but one ſingle Intereſt, they live by buying and ſelling, and this Trade of Commerce does well enough there, becauſe being a great Number of People met together

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on a ſmall ſpot of Land, and having no Product of their own, they furniſh each other with what they want, which being all fetcht from abroad, employs great Numbers of bulky Ships, which they ſail cheap, and are thereby alſo enabled to ſupply other parts of Chriſtendom with ſuch Commodities, whereof they have an Overplus above their own Conſumption; ſo that *Holland* is now become a Magazine of Trade or Commerce, and therefore they raiſe their Taxes by Methods which ſhall oblige all Temporary Reſidents to pay towards ſupport of their Government; for which Reaſon they give greater Freedoms and Immunities in Trade than the Circumſtances of *England* will admit, to encourage a Concourſe of People, who pay out of what they eat, drink, or wear, whilſt they are there: ſo that that Government leaves every Man at Liberty as to the Modus of his Trade, provided he pays the Taxes laid on him, and is not of ill Example, ſuch as *Dice-Players*, *Cheats*, and the like; theſe rather diſcouraging People from living among them, they puniſh with ſeverity: *Holland* having no Lands to improve, the Governors and Governed live by Commerce and Navigation; but it is not thus in *England*, we have two Intereſts, that of the Freeholder, and that of the Trader, and theſe are in themſelves of different Natures: Now it hath always been the Wiſdom of *Your Lordſhips moſt Noble Progenitors*, to regulate the *Foreign Trade* of *England*, by ſuch Laws as might beſt tend to uniting theſe two Intereſts, and making them ſerviceable to each other: Thus the Freeholder raiſes a Product, whilſt the Trader manufactures or exports it to Foreign Markets; the former furniſhes Proviſions, whilſt the others are employed in Commerce, and by a mutual Harmony both live happily: But if once theſe two Intereſts jar with each other, and ſuch a Freedom ſhould be granted to the Trader, that he ſhould ceaſe to depend on the Freeholder, and the Freeholder to be encouraged by him, the Lands of *England* muſt fall; a Free-Liberty to import Corn would ſupply it cheaper from other Countries than the Rents of *England* can afford; ſhould a free Liberty be granted to export Wool and import the Manufactures made thereof, 'twould be all one to the Trader, whoſe Profits would ariſe from both, but whether this Freedom of Commerce would be the Intereſt of the Freeholder, and conſequently the Intereſt of *England*, I leave to an *impartial Judge*: Nothing advances the Lands of *England* like *Manufactures*, which makes their Products valuable; but notwithſtanding this, the *Linnen-Drapers* are for allowing a perfect Freedom of Commerce, and *Indian Silks* and *Calicoes* muſt not be prohibited to be worn in *England*, leaſt they ſhould not have ſo much Money with Apprentices, whilſt the *Mercers* who ſell our own *Manufactures* muſt ſhut up their Shops, and thouſands of poor People ſtarve who are imployed in making them, and the Wool of *England* lye on the *Growers* Hands, or be ſhipt to *France* for a Market, and all to promote the wearing of *Indian Silks* and *Calicoes*, that the *Linnen-Drapers* may get more Money by ſelling them: I confeſs 'tis a new thing to me to ſee Arguments drawn againſt the promoting our *own Manufactures* from the private Intereſts of *Buyers* and *Sellers*, and I believe 'tis the firſt time ſuch were ever offered to this *Honourable Houſe*; had the *Vintners* petitioned againſt the diſcourageing the Importation of *French* Wines, only becauſe they found them profitable in their Draughts, 'twould have ſeem'd a ſtrange Argument; Buying and Selling is the moſt unprofitable part of the Trade of *England*; transferring of Properties adds nothing to the Wealth of this Nation; 'tis *Husbandry*, *Manufactures*, and *Foreign Trade* which make us Rich, the laſt of which is always to be regulated as it may beſt advance the the Intereſt of the Two former; but why they ſhould be diſcouraged only to fill the *Linen-Drapers* Pockets, I know no juſt Reaſon; a poor labouring Man that works at the Cloathing Trade brings more Profit to the Nation at the Years end, than he that ſells Ten Thouſand Pounds worth of *Indian Silks* and *Calicoes* to be worn in *England*.

But 'tis objected, *That if we do not uſe them here, the Dutch will get the Trade, who loſt it to us by the ſame Error.* This though (not proved) ſeems very ſtrange; for, did the *Dutch* ever iſſue out a *Placeat* againſt carrying *Indian Silks* and *Calicoes* to *England*, I thought our Acts reſtraining Trade had denyed them that Liberty, elſe I am apt to think they would have brought them hither, and ſold them much cheaper than the *Eaſt-India* Company have done, which would have more effectually anſwered the Ends of the *Linnen-Drapers* Argument: But if 'tis meant that the *Dutch* prohibited thoſe Commodities from being uſed in *Holland*, and have ſince recalled that *Placeat*, but could not again fall into the Calico Trade; ſo that thereby we got the Advantage of furniſhing them and other *Foreign* Markets: I do not ſee how this Bill doth hinder that Trade; for to make uſe of their own Argument, as the diſuſe of our own *Manufactures* in *England* would make them cheaper, and thereby fitter for Foreign Markets, ſo the diſuſe of *Indian Silks* and *Calicoes* here by wearing our own *Manufactures*, will make them cheaper, and thereby fitter for a Foreign Trade.

But all this is a Jeſt: The *Dutch* uſe little of them, and know not what to do with them when brought home, except we give them Liberty to import them hither; *Germany* takes few; *France* hath prohibited their being worn many Years ſince; *Spain* and *Portugal*

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buy Calicoes only when cheaper than other Linnens, and not out of Fancy; *Scotland* conſumes little of either; there are no Quantities ſpent in *Europe*, ſave what is ſpent in *England* and *Ireland*, and what we ſend to our Plantations, ſo that if this Act paſſes to diſuſe them here, they are at the ſame time baniſhed out of *Europe*, and there is an end of the *Scotch Eaſt-India Company*.

This is the way to make the *Eaſt-India* Trade to become profitable to this Kingdom, when the Traders thither ſhall import Materials inſtead of Manufactures; and this will more encourage Navigation, when Ships ſhall be fill'd with bulky Commodities; *Salt-Peter*, *Raw-Silks*, *Cotton-Yarn*, *Pepper*, and many ſuch things may be found to load bigger Veſſels than wrought *Silks* and *Calicoes* can, *one Ship of Six Hundred Tons* fill'd with the latter is worth *Twelve Hundred Thouſand Pounds*, and conſequently *Six ſuch Ships per Annum* would ſoon ruine this Nation, whereas, promoting *our own Manufactures* by paſſing this Act, will make it Rich, and divide the Profits more equally, than when cub'd up into a few Hands; 'twill be accompanied with the Prayers of the Poor for your Lordſhips, and the Honourable Houſe of Commons, who will thereby cut them out new Imployments; 'twill advance the Lands of *England*, and keep the People at home, who muſt elſe go where *Manufactures* are encouraged, and *Ireland* is ready to receive them; 'twill unite the People of *England* to his *Majeſty's Intereſt*, and enable them to pay their *Taxes* for ſupport of this preſent *War*, which would not be felt, if their *Trade* was ſecured *Abroad*, and their *Manufactures* encouraged *at Home*.

JOHN CARY.

A REPLY TO THE *Linnen Drapers* ANSWER

To that part of

Mr. *Cary* his Eſſay on Trade,

That Concerns

The Eaſt-India *Trade.*

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AN ANSWER TO Mr. CARY's Reply, &c.

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MR. *Cary* ſays, That the People of *England* wants Work; and therefore he is for prohibiting *Indian Silks* and *Callicoes:* Which is to raiſe a Tax on the Subject to maintain them.

Certainly no man that knows the ſtate of *England* would ever uſe ſuch an Argument; for, it is but too apparent we want not Work, but People, having Work enough to employ double the number of Hands. Let us but conſider how much the *Hollanders* gain by their Fiſhing-Trade in our Seas, and what the Value is of the ſeveral Goods imported into, and ſpent in *England*, which might by Diligence (not Prohibitions) be produced and manufactur'd here; thoſe two Articles, tho' others may be added, are ſufficient to ſhew, that we *do not* want Work in *England*, but rather People, and Laws to oblige them to work.

He is likewiſe for Confining the Trade of *England* barely to Exchanging of Commodities, therefore would have no *Eaſt-India* Goods wore, becauſe they are not the Returns of our Product and Manufactury, but of Mony: Whereas in truth the *Eaſt-India* Company hath ſent out, ſince *October* 1693, near Three hundred and Fifty thouſand Pounds in Engliſh Products. Yet, ſuppoſing his Poſition were true, I affirm, That it is the Intereſt of *England* to ſend their Product and Manufactury to the beſt Market, and from thence to bring ſuch Commodities as they cannot purchaſe cheaper any where elſe, which they ought to lay out where they may buy cheapeſt; and by this natural Circulation the Nation will be enrich'd; but, That we ſhall be oblig'd to take Commodities in exchange for ours, tho' never ſo dear, is a Doctrin that no Merchant, or any Nation that underſtands their Intereſt, will hearken to.

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But he adds, *That if we do not take Their Manufacturies, they will not take Ours:* Therefore he is for encouraging *German Linnens*, &c.

Anſw. We ſend to *Germany*, Leather, Tin, Lead, Copprice, Woolen, *&c.* and a great many other Goods of our Plantations, with which they cannot be ſupplied any where elſe cheaper. We do likewiſe take of them what is fit for our purpoſe. Now, if we take leſs of their *Linnens*, the ballance muſt be paid us in *Mony*, and that Mony ought to be laid out to the beſt advantage. Now, if *Callicoes* be three times cheaper than *Linnens*, as he allows, the Queſtion is, Whether we had better ſend one third of that Mony to *India* to buy *Callicoes*, or take it out in *Linnens* from *Germany*, at treble the price.

As to the Laws in force, which put a Reſtraint upon Trade, I will not pretend to meddle, leaving it to thoſe who may more properly do it; I humbly conceive they are of the ſame nature with the Act for prohibiting *Iriſh Cattel*, which Mr. *Cary* is ſo much againſt.

I think the Example of the *Dutch* ought to be follow'd, ſince that by their Trade and Policy, of a *Poor Diſtreſſed* People, they are become the *High* and *Mighty* of the World, in leſs than a Hundred Years, and that under the great Diſadvantage of a very chargable Country. Indeed their Method of Trade is far different from that of Mr. *Cary*'s, they have Lands and Manufacturies in proportion to the bigneſs of their Country, yet they do not think it the Intereſt of the Freeholder to curb Trade, knowing that the only way to raiſe the Price of Lands and other Eſtates, is by a Free Trade, which encreaſes Wealth and People.

A Free Trade makes all manner of Commodities cheap; the cheapneſs of Commodities impowers our People to work cheaper; the cheapneſs of Work encourages a Foreign Trade; and a Foreign Trade brings Wealth and People, and that alone raiſes the Price of Lands and Houſes.

On the contrary, Prohibitions make Cloathing and every thing elſe dear; ſo that the People cannot live without they have a proportionable price for their Labour. And I conceive Prohibitions to be a principal Reaſon why we cannot Trade ſo cheap as our Neighbours do.

Our Author concludes with his Method of making the *Eaſt-India* Trade profitable to the Kingdom, *viz.* by bringing *Cotton* and other Commodities, which being bulky, will employ more Shipping. That is in effect to ſay, We ſhall bring to *England* Materials to be manufactur'd which will ſtand us in a great deal more than the Goods now do ready manufactur'd. This is the way he propoſes to enrich the Nation. I muſt confeſs it is of a Piece with the reſt of his Diſcourſe upon this Subject; it will employ the Poor to Weave and Spin, and that is what he aims at right or wrong, not having a due Conſideration whether the Nation gets by it, or not.

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Eleven Queries *Humbly tender'd, Relating to the Bill for Prohibiting the Wearing of* East-India *Silks, and Printed and Dyed Calicoes.*

K. England. William III. King &c. 253

I. WHY Should *East-India* Silks and Bengals be prohibited, which to the Nation are three times as cheap as Dutch, French and Italian Silks?

II. Why *East-India* Silks, Bengals and Printed Calicoes, that pay Five times the Freight, and Twenty *per Cent.* more Cuſtom, than Dutch and Italian Silks? 816. m. 13. 144

III. Why *Perſia* Silks purchaſed with Engliſh Cloth and Stuffs, more than Dutch, French and Italian Silks bought with our Money?

IV. Why ſhould Painted Calicoes, from *India* be prohibited, when we muſt in their Room Print Dutch, French, Scotch or German Linnens, which will coſt the Nation three times the price?

V. Why ſhould we enrich our Neighbours by Prohibiting *East-India* Silks, and wearing of theirs, when at one time or other, they may employ the coſts of thoſe Silks againſt us?

VI. Why ſhould we interrupt that Trade, which not only affords us the cheapeſt Commodities in the World, but likewiſe encourages the Buidling large Ships, which in caſes of neceſſity may be uſeful for the defence of this Kingdom?

VII. What advantage will it be to *England*, that her Manufactures (whether at low or high price) are conſumed within it ſelf, the Nation being thereby never the Richer?

VIII. Why ſhould we Raiſe up ſome Artiſts to oppreſs others? For if Spinning and Weaving be Engliſh Manufactures, ſo is Dyeing, Calendring, Stiffning, Glazeing and Printing?

IX. Why ſhould we prohibit the wearing *East-India* Manufactures, which are ſo cheap, to encourage the wearing our own which are much dearer, and yet give liberty to Export them into other Countreys, where they will have the ſame effect upon ours there?

X. What encouragement will it be to bring hither thoſe far fetch'd Commodities, when we have no vent for them at Home, but muſt ſend them to be blown upon in a Forreign Market?

XI. Why ſhould we Cut off this profitable Trade from the Engliſh, and let the Dutch, French, Sweeds and Scotch run away with it? For Trade like the Sea, never loſeth Ground in any one place, but ſhe gains it in another, and if checked or reſtrained takes it flight and carries its Bleſſiings to more Hoſpitable Countreys.

Eleven *Queries* Relating to the Bill, for Prohibiting *Eaſt - India* Silks, and Printed Callicoes.

REASONS *for Paſſing the* Turky Companies *Bill, to diſcourage the great Importations of* Thrown Silk.

816. m54 13. 145

THat this Company Exporting Annually to the value of Three or Four hundred Thouſand pounds in *Cloth*, *Tinn*, *Lead* and the Manufactures of this Kingdom, cannot make Returns, but Three quarters at leaſt muſt be in *Raw Silk*; which being Thrown in *England*, gives a quarter part of its value to the Poor, who are generally the Wives and Children of Seamen employed abroad; and that by this Throwing (upon a modeſt computation) there are not leſs than an *Hundred Thouſand* Poor, that uſe to get their Livelihoods; every pound, according to its quality giving *Two Shillings Six Pence*, if coarſe; and *Three Shillings and Six Pence*, if fine, to the Throwſter.

That they have not complained, until now that the Importations of Thrown Silk are augmented to double the former quantities, and brought fitted for all uſes, inſomuch that the Throwſters (as is found upon examination) have not half their uſual imployment; and the *Raw Silk* of *Turkey* lyes by diſeſteemed. And if this be not conſumed, we cannot Export the Woollen Manufactures.

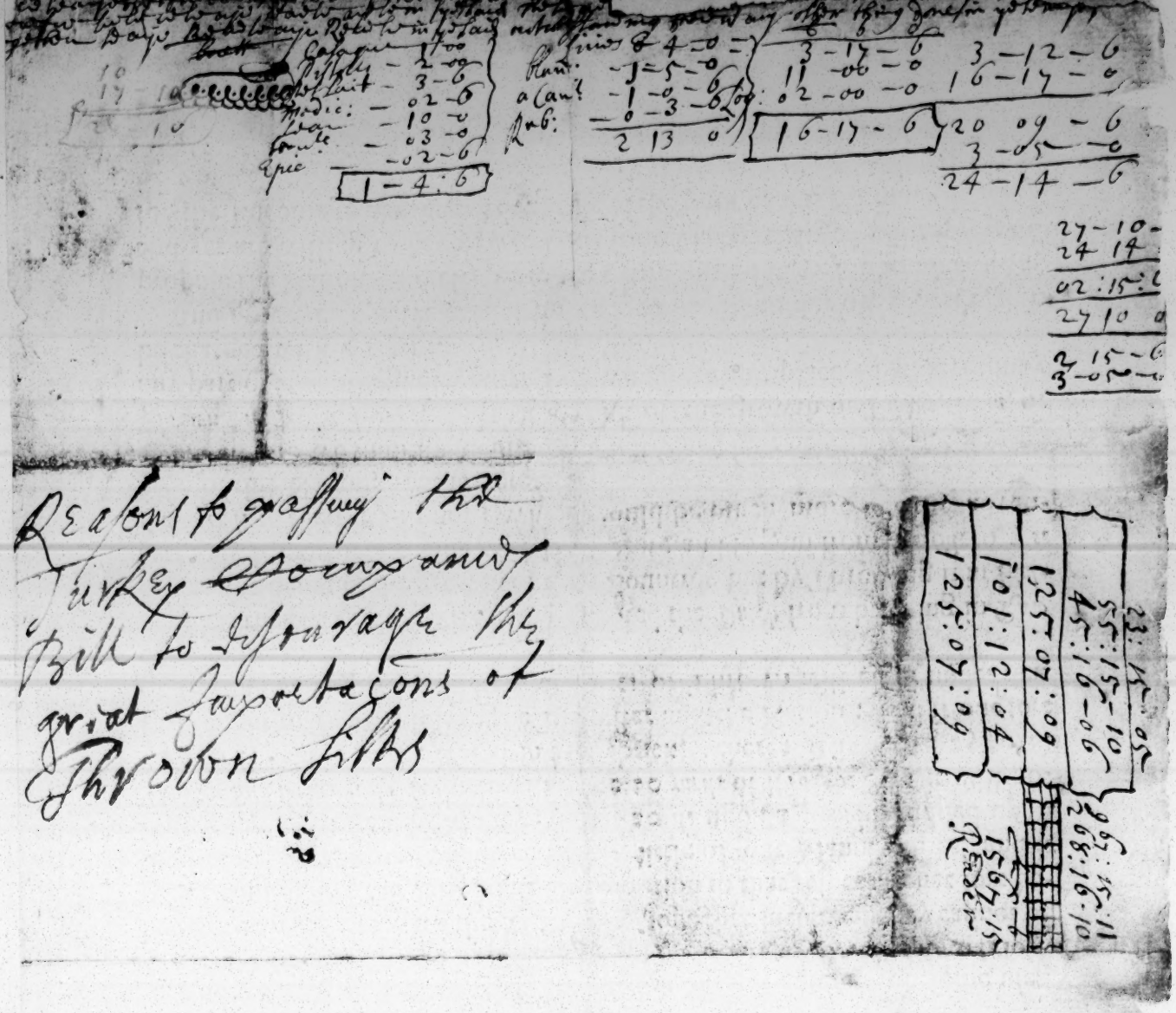
We are very unwilling to Impoſe any charge upon our Neighbours, and only deſire ſo gentle an Impoſition as may incourage our own poor, without regard to private intereſt; for otherwiſe, it is well known that no Nation can Throw Silk cheaper and better then in *Turkey*, and if we be neceſſitated to bring it in Thrown from thence, we humbly ſubmit to conſideration, how great a loſs it muſt be to this Nation, and conſequently be the utter ruine of the Myſtery of Throwing.

And whereas we are told that only *Italian Silk* can anſwer for ſome uſes, We could be glad ſuch an expedient might be found, as to exempt that ſort, but ſince all Laws regard the Major, we hope that inconveniency cannot be great, conſidering the very ſmall Conſumption in that reſpect, That ſort being only from *Bologna*, which conſumes little of our Manufactures, and is only bought with ready Money; and if 20 *d.* upon a *pound* be added upon *Thrown Silk* from *Italy* (which will make 20 *yards* of *Wrought Silks*) it will not be 2 *per C.* charge to the *Weaver* in his Fabrick, whereas it is above 25 *per C.* (if brought in *Thrown*) loſs to the Throwſter and the Nation: and if one ſort of *Thrown Silk* be permitted free, all ſorts of Thrown will enter under that denomination.

That the *Act of Navigation* hath prevented the *Dutch* from bringing in *Raw Silk*, as not being of the growth of their Countrey, but by Throwing it in *Holland* they Import it as their own Manufacture, and ſo gain from 2 *s.* 6 *d.* to 3 *s.* 6 *d. per l.* to their own poor; which would be much more for the advantage of this Nation, that it were brought in *Raw*.

Wherefore we humbly deſire to be reſtrained our ſelves from bringing *Thrown Silk* from *Turkey*, and that all Silk of the growth of *Turkey*, *India*, or any part of *Aſia*, brought in hither Thrownd from any place whatſoever, may be charged with 4 *s. per l.*

And now we hope we cannot be Judged partial to our own Trade, but propoſe the Nations Intereſt, ſince we deſire but 20 *d. per l.* upon *Italian Silk* and yet are willing to have *Thrown Silk* from *Turkey*, charged with 4 *s. per l.* for the Encouragement and Advantage of the poor of this Nation.



Reasons to passing the Turkey Stocking and Bill to discourage the great Importacons of Thrown Silks

816.m.13.
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PROPOSALS,

Humbly offered to the Honourable Houſe of Commons *in* Parliament Aſſembled; *For the better Securing of the Revenue of His Majeſties Cuſtoms upon Imported Wrought Silks*, &c. *For raiſing a conſiderable Sum to the Government; And, for a farther Encouragement of Wrought Manufactures; more eſpecially the Art and Myſtery of* Silk-Weavers.

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THAT a Seal be affix'd to each end of every piece of Wrought Silk Imported; and that every piece of Silk of the Breadth of 12 Inches, and Length of 30 or upwards, profferr'd to Sale in order to be conſumed in this Nation, not having the Seal affixt as aforeſaid, ſhall be forfeited.

THAT rich Silks are Imported, cut in pieces, adapted to ſeveral Uſes, (whereby the King is defrauded of his Cuſtoms) therefore ſuch Pieces ought to be ſealed as aforeſaid.

THAT to prevent Diſputes, which may ariſe upon the Certainty of their being Foreign, all Wrought Silks, as well Home-made as Imported, to be ſealed, under the ſame Penalty.

THAT an Office or Offices be appointed for ſealing the ſame; and that certain Perſons (Weavers of good Repute for Honeſty and Skil) be appointed upon Oath, to Value betwixt the King and Subject.

THAT an Office for valuing and ſealing Imported Wrought Silks, may be appointed at or near the Cuſtom-Houſe.

THAT Smuggling or Running of Wrought Silk is frequently practis'd, appears,

By the Conviction of the Smugglers in Parliament in 1698.
By the frequent Seizures and Sales at the Cuſtom-Houſe.
By the great Quantities of Foreign Silks conſumed in *England* beyond the Proportion of the Entries at the Cuſtom-Houſe.

THE *Weavers* themſelves compute that there are above 20000 *Broad-Weavers* within the Bills of Mortality, and that they weave one with the other 3 *l.* Sterling Weekly; which pay but One Penny *per* Pound Sterling, the Value amounts to *per Annum*, 13000 *l.*

If Two Pence *per* Pound Sterling, 26000 *l.*

BY the ſame Computation there is double the Quantity of Foreign Wrought Silks conſumed in this Nation, than of our own Manufactures; which paying Four Pence *per l.* Sterling, amounts to *per Ann.* 104000 *l.*

Total, 130000 *l.*

SUPPOSE the Charge of Offices *per Ann.* 5000 *l.*

AND for Charity to ſupport poor *Weavers*, their Families and Relicts, and ſetting their Poor to work, 3000 *l.*

8000 *l.*

Which being deducted, remains, 122000 *l.*

Mr. *James Waſſe*, Citizen and Chirurgeon of *London*, who in the time of the late War ſerved His Majeſty as Surviſor to the ſick and wounded Seamen in the Ports of *Chatham*, *Rocheſter*, *Graveſend*, *Woolwich*, *Greenwich*, *Deptford*, and Parts adjacent, and was the firſt that propoſed to the Commiſſioners for ſick and wounded Seamen to intercede with His Majeſty for the making of *Greenwich-Houſe* an Hoſpital, having this Propoſal brought him, encouraged the ſame; humbly deſiring that ſuch a part of the Fund, as our Repreſentatives in Parliament ſhall think fit, may be appropriated to the Uſe of the ſaid Hoſpital

Mr. *James Wasse*'s

PROPOSALS

FOR

Greenwich-Hospital.

E 53

The Caſe of the Bailiffs, Wardens, Aſſiſtants, and Commonalty of the Company of *Weavers* LONDON, truly ſtated.

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Humbly ſubmitted to the Judgement of the PARLIAMENT, *for the Exempting themſelves out of the* BILL, *for* Heavy Dyed SILK.

THis Bill being for the ſetting up an Office, The *Weavers* do for their parts humbly move, That they having formerly had the experience of the like Office in times paſt, have found it very greivous and burthenſome to them, and Intollerable.

1. In reſpect of the attendance, wherein much time is ſpent by the *Weaver*.

Both in bringing his Raw Silk to the Office,

And in returning with it back again to the Office, and there to ſtay till a Tryal be made; which is a great Loſſe to the Artificer, who lives onely by his time, and muſt needs be deſtructive to his Servants.

2. In reſpect of the charge upon every pound of Silk which is ſo Died, wherein they humbly move, That as they are no parties to the abuſe or fraud either one way or other, nor ſhall receive any benefit or advantage by the prevention thereof, in regard they buy their Silk Raw, and cauſe it to be Dyed themſelves; wherein their intereſt is to have it Dyed light and not heavy, for two Cauſes.

Firſt, in regard their work runs the further in meaſure, according to which the *Weaver* ſells his Commodity, and not by weight.

Secondly, in regard their Silk being light Dyed, renders the colour more beautiful and conſequently the work more Saleable and ſtrong for the *Wearer*, and therefore it is againſt the intereſt of the *Weaver* to cauſe his ſilk to be heavy Dyed.

silks dress

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TWO AFFIDAVITS,

Shewing Abuſes *put upon* Engliſh *WEAVERS.*

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K. GEorge *Fido*, of the Pariſh of *Stepney*, in the County of *Middleſex*, Weaver, maketh Oath, That He, this Deponant is a Workman belonging to, and employed by the Luteſtring Company, and hath, and doth weave Alamodes or Luteſtrings for the ſaid Company; and that he, this Deponant, on the 5*th.* Day of *November* laſt, being in the Ware-Houſe belonging to the ſaid Company, adjoining to the dwelling Houſe of Mr. *Hillary Reneu*, one of the ſaid Company; one *Daniel Rape* an Officer or Servant belonging to the ſaid Company was in the ſaid Houſe, and diſcourſed in *French* with the ſaid Mr. *Reneu*, and then came to this Deponant, and told this Deponant, That he the ſaid *Rape* knew of a parcel of *French* Alamodes which he would ſhew this Deponant, and produced to this Deponant a little Tally, or piece of Stick, which he ſaid was the Mark whereby to be admitted to ſee the ſaid Alamodes - And this Deponant asking the ſaid *Rape*, Why he did not ſeize the ſaid Alamodes? the ſaid *Rape* anſwered, That about a Week after there would be a Cheſt more; and the ſaid *Rape* carried this Deponant, and *Richard Maynard* to a Houſe, called, *The French Charity-Houſe*, bearing the Sign of the *Pelican* in *Artillary-Lane*, in *Spittle-Fields*, and being come thither, the ſaid *Rape* asked the Man of the Houſe to ſee ſome *French-Alamodes*, producing and ſhewing to him the ſaid Little Tally, or Piece of Stick; which the ſaid Perſon in the Houſe comparing with another Tally which he had, after examination thereof, ſeeming ſatisfy'd, ſhewed to the ſaid *Rape*, and this Deponant, three Pieces of *French-Alamode*; and by the ſaid *Rape*'s direction this Deponant cut of ſome of the ſaid Seals, and carried them away: And this Deponant farther ſaith, That the 9*th.* of *November* laſt the ſaid Mr. *Reneu* carried the ſaid *Rape*, and one *Charles Jennings*, and this Deponant into the Celler, and gave them Brandy to drink, and delivered a little Tally, or piece of Stick to the ſaid *Rape*, and bid this Deponant go with the ſaid *Rape* to ſee ſome *French-Alamodes*, and directed this Deponant to cut off the Leads, asking this Deponant, Whether he had a Knife or Sheirs to cut the ſame, and how this Deponant cut them off before? and this Deponant ſhewed him how he concealed the Shiers in his Sleves: And the ſaid *Rape* and *Jennings*, and this Deponant went to the Sign of the *Pidgeon* in *Little-Paternoſter-Row* in *Spittle-Fields*, and being come into the Houſe, the ſaid *Rape* ſhewed the aforeſaid Tally to the Miſtris of the Houſe, as this Deponant takes her to be, and ſhe compared the ſaid Tally with another Tally which ſhe had, and after ſome ſcrupulous examination, ſhe produces three Pieces of *French-Alamodes*, from which this Deponant cut off two of the Seals; and this Deponant farther ſaith, *That on the* 20th. *of* Nov. *laſt, the ſaid* Rape *ſent for this Deponant to* Primroſe-Ally, *and told this Deponant he was going to ſee more* French-Alamodes, *and went with this Deponant, and the aforeſaid* Maynord *to a* French *Apothecaries Houſe overagainſt the* Nag's-Head *in* Spittle-Fields; and in a Room two pair of Stairs, the ſaid *Rape* ſhewed another Tally to a Woman, who compared the ſame with another Tally which ſhe had; and ſeeming ſatisfied, produced and ſhewed to this Deponant and the reſt, ſix pieces of *French-Alamodes*; from which this Deponant privately cut off ſome of the Seals, and the ſaid *Maynard* cut off the other ſome. And this Deponant, and the ſaid *Maynard* then deſired the ſaid *Rape* to ſeize the ſaid Alamodes,

but

but he refuſed, tho he the ſaid *Rape* had a Commiſſion to Seize the ſame. And ſome time after the ſaid Mr. *Reneu* ſent for this Deponant to make Affidavit, and there this Deponant found the ſaid Mr. *Manard*, *Charles Jennings*, *Danniel Rape* and one Mr. *Goodwin*; and the ſaid Mr. *Reneu* pulled out of his Pocket Affidavits, ready drawn, and read this Deponant's Affidavit to this Deponant, and they all went to the Cuſtom-houſe, where this Deponant did make an Affidavit purporting, That he had ſeen ſeveral *French Alamodes* at ſeveral Houſes in *Spittle-Fields*, and cut off Several Seals from them, and that by reaſon of cuting off the ſaid Seals, he this Deponant could not be admitted to ſee any more; and that he this Deponant, and ſeveral others did get their Living by Working for tke Company, in Words more at large to that effect; and this Deponant verily believeth that the ſaid *French-Alamodes* which the ſaid *Rape* ſhewed to this Deponant at the ſaid ſeveral Houſes did belong to the ſaid *Luteſtrings-Company*: For that the ſaid *Rape*, who had a Commiſſiou in his Pocket, refuſed to Seize them, tho he affirmed to this Deponant, That the Laſt Six Pieces were worth Ninety Pounds.

Jurat. 19. *Martii Anno Dom.*
1695. *corum me* S. Keck. *George Fido.*

Daniel Lyon of the Pariſh of *Stepney*, in the County of *Middleſex*, Merchant, a *French* Refugee naturallized, maketh Oath, That he this Deponant, being one of the Directors of the *French Charity-Houſe* in *Spitle-Fields*; and being informed by ſeveral Weavers, that great Complaints were made, That French-Alamodes were privately received and kept in the ſaid Houſe, he this Deponant for the diſcovery thereof, on *Wedneſday* the 18*th*. day of *March* Inſtant, at the uſual Aſſembly there held every *Wedneſday*, Mr. *Piozet* Miniſter, being the Preſident in the place of Mr. *Rival* Miniſter, Mr. *Blondel* Doctor of Phyſick, Mr. *Stephen Seignoret* Merchant, Mr. *Fruchard* Merchant, Mr. *Pomerey*, who lives in the ſaid Houſe, and is Receiver, and ſeveral other Merchants, and other Directors of the ſaid Houſe, did acquaint the ſaid Aſſembly with the ſaid Suſpicion and Complaint; whereupon they all ſeemd very deſirous that the ſame ſhould be diligently enquired into: And this Deponant having had particular information from one *Charles Fido*, a Weaver belonging to the *Luſtring-Company*; this Deponant in open Aſſembly asked the ſaid *Mr. Pomerey*, Whether he did receive ſome Pieces of French-Alamodes into the ſaid Houſe, and from whom he received them? To which he anſwered, That he had indeed received a Parcel of French-Alamodes into the Houſe from a Perſon whom he very much honoured, but that he muſt not diſcover his Name: But being further queſtioned, Whether he did not ſhow thoſe French-Alamodes to ſome perſons, and by what Tokens they were admitted to ſee them; and alſo the whole Aſſembly being very much moved and reſolved to know the truth; the ſaid Mr. *Pomerey* did at laſt declare, That the ſaid Parcel of Alamodes had been ſent to him by Mr. *Hilary Reneu*, who is one of the chiefeſt Members of the Luteſtring-Company, and alſo that the ſaid Mr. *Reneu* gave him a Little Tally, or Piece of Stick, and ordered him to ſhew the ſaid French-Alamodes to ſuch perſons as ſhould bring the other part of the ſaid Tally for a Mark or Token; and that he did ſhew the ſaid Alamodes to ſeveral Perſons that brought the other part of the ſaid Tally, after having examined and compared the ſame; but ſolemly proteſted he did not know what uſe Mr. *Reneu* intended to make thereof, or uſed Words in the *French-Tongue* to that effect.

Note, That the Seals and Leads expreſſed in the Firſt Affidavit, to be cut off, were the French *Marks us'd at* Lyons.

March 21*ſt*. 1695.

816. mm. 13.
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REASONS

Humbly Offered by

The Silk Manufacturers *of* Great Britain,

In Favour of

The BILL for Importing *Perſia* RAW-SILK from *Ruſſia*.

THE Two great Ends propoſed to be attained by this Bill, are, the Reduction of the preſent exceſſive high Price of Silk, which has, for ſome Months paſt, been near One-third Part dearer than it was laſt Year; and the Procuring of a Material, which is very uſeful, and much wanted, to carry on the Silk Manufactures.

The preſent high Price of Silk is attributed, amongſt other Cauſes, to the Two following; *viz.*

I. The King of *Spain*'s prohibiting the Exportation of Silk out of his Dominions, from whence between Three and Four hundred Bales were formerly imported annually.

II. The Stop, which has of late been put to the Trade thro' *Ruſſia* to *Perſia*; and the little Probability there is of its being ſoon, if ever, opened again.

This Advance in the Price of Silk has ſo greatly affected the Silk Manufactures, that the Manufacturers have been obliged to diſcharge, and are daily diſcharging, great Numbers of their Workmen; who, being rendered incapable of getting their Bread in this Kingdom, will, of Neceſſity, be driven to ſeek a Livelihood in foreign Countries.

To remedy theſe Evils, and prevent the Miſchiefs juſtly apprehended, it is become abſolutely neceſſary to open every Canal in our Power for the Introduction of Raw-Silk, proper for the Manufactures, upon the cheapeſt and eaſieſt Terms poſſible: And the Manufacturers are humbly of Opinion, that the Liberty propoſed to be given by this Bill, to import *Perſia* Silk from *Ruſſia*, will be the only certain Means of anſwering thoſe great and deſirable Ends, for the following REASONS:

I. The

I. The Importation of *Perſia Sherbaffe* Silk, which can now be purchaſed only in *Ruſſia*, and which we are therefore at preſent totally deprived of, will in a great meaſure ſupply the Want, and anſwer all, or moſt of, the Purpoſes of *Spaniſh* Silk.

II. *Perſia Sherbaffe* is of a ſuperior Quality to, and better adapted to keep up the Silk Manufactures to their preſent Perfection, than any Silk imported for many Years paſt from *Turky*.

III. The Importation of a ſufficient Quantity of *Perſia* Silk from *Ruſſia* will, in all Probability, be a Means of reducing the preſent high Price of Silk, which threatens the Ruin of the Silk Manufactures.

IV. The Supply of Silk by the Way of *Ruſſia* is leſs precarious, and liable to fewer Accidents, than by any other new Chanel which can be opened.

The *Utility* therefore of the Meaſure propoſed, it is apprehended, will evidently appear from the Reaſons before aſſigned; and the *Neceſſity* of it is manifeſt from hence, that, if the *Britiſh* Merchants are not allowed to purchaſe this Silk in *Ruſſia*, Foreigners will ingroſs the Whole, and by that means be enabled to work up *their* Manufactures not only much cheaper, but likewiſe better, than the Manufacturers of *Great Britain* will be able to do; the Conſequence of which muſt neceſſarily be the Loſs of our Exportation of thoſe Commodities.

It is well known, that the Silk Manufactures of this Kingdom are now brought to ſuch Perfection, as to exceed, in ſome Branches, any made in *France*, *Germany*, or *Holland*; and that conſiderable Quantities of theſe Manufactures are exported to, and worn in, thoſe Countries; but if the Door ſhould be ſhut againſt the Importation of *Perſia* Silk, as theſe Manufactures muſt inevitably decline in their Goodneſs, an End will be thereby put to that valuable Branch of Trade.

As to what is alleged by the *Turky* Company, with regard to *Brutia* Silk, the Manufacturers have proved, that *Brutia* Silk is not equal in Goodneſs to *Perſia* Sherbaffe; but, if it were equal, the Quantity imported is not near ſufficient to anſwer the Demand; for it is admitted, even by the *Turky* Company themſelves, that, for Seven Years paſt, they have not, *communibus annis*, imported more than One hundred Bales upon a Medium; whereas it is apprehended the Quantity neceſſary for the Manufactures is at leaſt a Thouſand Bales annually.

The only plauſible Objection to this Bill is, that it will diminiſh the Exportation of our Woolen Manufactures.

But this Objection is merely ſuppoſititious, and has not the leaſt Foundation either in Fact or Probability; for the *Armenians*, who bring this Silk

Silk into *Ruſſia*, are not ſuffered to carry Coin or Bullion *out* of that Kingdom; and therefore, if they deal with the *Engliſh* at all, they muſt take Goods in Exchange for their Silk. At preſent indeed they traffick chiefly with the *Dutch*, for Woolen Manufactures, becauſe the *Engliſh* cannot take their Silk; but if that Diſability were removed, and Aſſortments of Woolen Goods exported from hence, proper for the *Perſian* Market, as there certainly will be, if this Bill paſſes into a Law, there is all the Reaſon in the World to believe, the *Armenians* will chuſe rather to deal with the *Engliſh* at *Petersburgh*, than be obliged to ſend their Silk into *Holland*, as they will be able to make their Returns at leaſt a Year ſooner by the former Method, than by the latter.

It has been proved, that the *Armenians* have exported above a Thouſand Bales of Silk to *Holland* in one Year, for which they have taken Woolen Manufactures in return.

In every Light therefore this Bill appears to be for the Benefit of this Kingdom; as it will be a certain Means of keeping Raw-Silk at a moderate Price, and of ſupplying the Silk Manufactures with a Material, which is abſolutely neceſſary to maintain the ſaid Manufactures in their preſent Perfection, and which can be got no other way, and as it will be at leaſt a probable, if not a certain, Means of increaſing the Exportation of our Woolen Manufactures.

And therefore, as this Bill is manifeſtly calculated to anſwer thoſe great and national Ends, it is preſumed, that bare Suggeſtions of ill Conſequences, which have already been found by Experience merely chimerical and imaginary, will be of no Weight in the Determination of a Queſtion, wherein one of the principal Manufactures of this Kingdom is ſo nearly and eſſentially concerned.

REASONS,

Humbly offered

By the Silk Manufacturers of Great Britain, *in favour of the Bill for importing* Perſia *Raw-Silk from* Ruſſia.

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REASONS

GIVEN FOR THE

Neceſſity of altering the Method Slaters now go by in ſetting up their Slate for Sale, and alſo the manner they now lay it for the Covering their Buildings.

I. THOSE that dig their Slate in Winter pretend to ſet them up in Heaps and Thouſands, with all Sizes jumbled together, which ſhould be ſixſcore to the hundred, and have for a long time abus'd the Country by ſetting up two, three, nay ſometimes four hundred leſs than they pretend, and beſides put in many Stones that are no way uſeful when they are brought to their Work, except they be for Shells or Boulſters, neither of which ſhould be made uſe of, if their Work lay true and in good Order.

II. The Slates they now uſe, of the largeſt Size, may be from ten to twenty Inches long; but not above four, five, ſix, ſeven or eight Inches ſquare in Depth at the Bottom, which ſquare Part of the Stone is only uſeful to the Work, part of which is laid outward, in Proportion to the Depth that Square bears, and the upper Part above that Square is of no other uſe to the Covering, but to Load and Incumber the ſaid Roof; beſides, they are forc'd to make uſe of ſo many Shells and Boulſters to ſupport that upper irregular Part of the Slate they lay on, that adds ſo much more to the Weight as to make it double what it ought to be.

III. Their Rule, by which they pretend to Lath by and lay their Slate upon, is of little uſe as they manage it, but to ſupport it outward at the Bottom, ſo far as the ſquare Part of the Stone and the upper irregular Part of every Stone is fill'd up, and ſupported with the Shells and Boulſters they are forc'd to make uſe of; and the Pins they pretend to hang their Slate by upon the Lath hath not half of them any hold or dependance upon the ſame, which may be at any time ſeen by examining the inward Side of their Work, and beſides will alſo find that the Shells and Boulſters they are forc'd to make uſe of are generally looſe, and apt to ſhake and fall in every high Wind, which decays their Work in very few Years, though to outward Appearance at firſt looks fair.

Theſe Abuſes hath almoſt ruin'd their Profeſſion with their Commodity, which is known to be of Value, if made uſe of to the beſt Advantage, being capable of great Improvements, which hitherto hath been loſt, but is here endeavour'd to be ſet forth.

But the Slaters have ſome Excuſe for their Abuſes in their Sett, when thoſe that Buy them will not allow a Price to make them live, and thoſe poor Men muſt Sell when they are got, or ſtarve, it having been their whole Winter's Work: But they can have no Excuſe for the Defects of their Work in Covering, which wrongs the Builder much more than their Sett wrongs the Buyer.

RULES *offer'd to prevnt t*
on'd, and a new Methd pr
the Reputation of the Sater
their Slate which is thought
lighteſt Covering we hve
the moſt durable, if made
Advantage it will bear, wh
Commodity to the Perfetion

I. EVERY Slater that raiſes Slate in Stones both at the Top as well both Ends of an even Breadth, as it in Length, and no Part of the Stone to but ſhould all be in the Shape of Tile in Pro Rules entred in this ſecond and third Co according to their Dimenſions in Rows a ſcore to the hundred, the leaſt Size to b and three in Breadth, and no Stones to be but what ſhall be uſeful in their Places.

II. Ten ſuch Rows ſhould make the th ſame Dimenſions; and in the ſame mann ſet up, from the leaſt to the largeſt Size, and third Column, and the Workman Scantling he pleaſes, and order his Cour will have occaſion for no Shells; but a B made uſe of in ſuch Places where a Stone low, and may there be fixt in as faſt as t any appearance more within than withou Work will appear on both Sides even, like and not above half the Weight they now

III. The Lath muſt be ſtreight and goo and even, as if they were for Tile, and a and Dimenſions of the Stone they deſign ry Pin may hang and depend upon the L no want of any thing to ſupport any Part reſt upon the other, and be laid ſo far o the upper Part that hangs upon the Lath laid true, it will be the ſame within, bei Ends and Sides, which will prevent the Lu to ſtuff in to ſupport it; and the Workma in ſuch manner as to make the Middle o Joint of the Courſe below it, like Tile; and of ſuch Strength and Value, that the Sla ſomething added to the Price of his Work modity; and a good Slater will make a g them Trades will have almoſt the ſame D go by.

Theſe are the Rules to prevent the Abu and the Country from being any more dece ſerv'd, will in few Years recover the Reput and the Commodity by which they live, uſe of both to their Credit, and the Servic bring their Covering to be as Light as Tile

Theſe Slates are to be had near *Stamfor* ed as herein mentioned, or in the Rough, a ing, which may prove to be the cheapeſt the Workman.

prevnt the Abuſes menti-
Method propos'd to Recover
the Slaters Profeſſion, and
s thought to be the beſt and
we hive in England, *and*
if made uſe of to the beſt
bear, which will bring their
Perfection it deſerves.

aiſes Slate in Winter ſhould Square his
Top as well as at the Bottom, to be
n Breadth, as far as the Slate will bear
the Stone to be left above the Square,
of Tile in Proportion, according to the
nd third Column, and to be ſet up
s in Rows and Hundreds being ſix-
aſt Size to be ſix Inches in Length,
Stones to be ſet up in the ſaid Rows,
eir Places.

make the thouſand, all to be of the
e ſame manner muſt every Degree be
largeſt Size, as enter'd in the ſecond
Workman may make uſe of what
der his Courſes as he thinks fit, but
lls; but a Boulſter may be properly
here a Stone may happen to fall Hol-
n as faſt as the Slate it ſelf, without
than without; and thus the whole
les even, like a perfect Shell of Stone,
nt they now make it.

eight and good, and laid exactly true
r Tile, and according to the Courſes
they deſign to make uſe of, that eve-
upon the Lath; then there will be
ort any Part of it, but one Stone will
laid ſo far out as will it ſelf ſupport
on the Lath; and if the Outſide be
within, being Square alike at both
event the Lumber they are now forc'd
the Workman may order his Courſes
the Middle of every Slate cover the
like Tile; and this will make the Work
that the Slater will deſerve to have
of his Work, as well as to his Com-
will make a good Tiler, for both of
t the ſame Dependance and Rule to

event the Abuſes of the Slaters Trade,
ny more deceiv'd; and, if they are ob-
ver the Reputation of their Profeſſion,
h they live, and force them to make
nd the Service of their Country, and
Light as Tile.

near *Stamford* in *Lincolnſhire* Squar-
the Rough, and Squared at the Build-
the cheapeſt way, and beſt liked by

Slate Num.	Inches Long	Bd	L.	S.	L.	S.
1st	5			10		
2d	6	3		12		
3d	7			14		
4th	8	4		16		
5t	9			18		
					3:	10
6	10	5	1	·		
7	11		1	4		
8	12	6	1	8		
9	13		1	12		
10	14	7	1	16		
					7:	0
11	15		2	·		
12	16	8	2	8		
13	17		2	12		
14	18	9	3	·	10:	0
					20:	10

The Prices enter'd in the firſt Prints went down to twenty thouſand, and up to twenty four Inches in Length, and twelve in Breadth, in proportion to the ſame Rule now Enter'd in the three firſt figured Columns; but the ſix laſt and largeſt Sizes, are by Experience found not only to be the leaſt Uſeful, but raiſes the Charge to ſuch a Price as is unneceſſary both for the Builder and the Workman.

And it plainly appears the fourteen thouſand here Enter'd, are the moſt uſeful Slates for all ſorts of Buildings, and makes the neateſt and ſtrongeſt Work.

But the Fives, which is the firſt and ſmalleſt Size, doth the beſt for any upright Work; which it performs with great Strength and Perfection.

And the nine thouſand which follows them, are better to be made uſe of for all ſorts of Roofs than the largeſt Stone; and makes the moſt compleat and ſtrongeſt Work, and takes up much leſs Lime than the Old Method. And the four laſt Sizes here Enter'd, is proper to be made uſe of for the Eaves and Ridge; it being abſolutely Neceſſary to Slate the Top double with that Slate, as well as the Bottom with any two of the ſaid four Courſes, which looks Neat, and like a Verge on the Top; and binds and ſtrengthens all the Courſes downwards.

And the Perſon that hath given himſelf the Trouble to Improve this Work, hath made ſuch Experience of it, that he finds it abſolutely Neceſſary to ſet forth this New Table of the Prices, as the Slaters can afford them to Live by their Profeſſion, which they could not have done at the Rates before Enter'd. And it is not difficult to be ſeen, that the ſix largeſt Sizes now left out, which are not to be got without great Difficulty and Charge, was the Occaſion of ſetting theſe that are moſt Uſeful at a lower Price than the Slater could Afford them at; it being found, that every thouſand, one with another, cannot be dreſſed and ſquared Top and Bottom under four Shillings *per* Thouſand, which is a great Addition to the Price. And notwithſtanding they are very little above the Price of the Old Method, it appearing that the fourteen thouſand here Enter'd, which comes but to twenty Pounds ten Shillings, will cover within a third Part as much as thirty Heaps of the Old Sett, which the Slaters pretend to Sell for the ſame Mony.

And if the whole Charge of a Rood of Slating in this Manner ſhould amount to a third Part more than the Old Method, it is much the Cheaper, conſidering the Goodneſs of this Work, and the Imperfection of the other, which is known not to keep any Building dry, and muſt be conſtantly Repaired after ſeven or eight Years: And this New Method well Perform'd, will in no Man's Age need any thing to be done at it.

And after this, neither the Country, nor the Workman, ſhall be given any more Trouble, but leave them both to take which Method they pleaſe, and like beſt; knowing Old Cuſtoms are hard to be broke either by Workmen or Builders.

REASONS

Humbly offered by the Soap makers of the City of London *to the Honourable the Houſe of Commons in Parliament aſſembled againſt a Duty to be laid upon Soap.*

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1*ſt*. THat the Exciſe of Soap in the time of the late Civil Wars amounted but to about 7000 *l. per Annum* after all Charges of Collecting paid.

2*dly*. That ſince the preſent War with *France*, the Exciſe of Soap being diſcourſed of, it was thought more convenient to lay a Duty upon the Commodities it was made of, they being more eaſie to collect at the Cuſtome Houſe, and accordingly a great Duty was laid upon the Ingredients of which Soap is made, to the value of about a half peny *per* pound (being 10 *s. per* Barrel) by reaſon whereof, and of the preſent War, the Commodities are ſo dear, that the Trade of Soap is much decayed in *London*, for that in many Counties eſpecially the North and Weſt, the Chandlers and others privately make Cake Soap, Ball Soap, and white Soap of Wood and Fern Aſhes and Kitchen-ſtuff, and the like, which much leſſens the ſale of Soap in *London*.

3. That if any Exciſe be laid upon Soap it will cauſe many People to make Soap in private, which will much leſſen the Revenue, and tend to the Ruin of thoſe that honeſtly pay the Duty.

4. That Soap in *London*, being made of Olive Oyl and foreign Pot-aſhes, and Tallow, which Commodities are the return of Fiſh, Cloath, Lead, Tin, *&c*. A new Duty will make Soap ſo very dear, that the ſale of it will be much leſſened, and conſequently the Exportation of theſe Commodities will be very much leſſened alſo.

5. That if a Duty be laid upon Soap it will ſubject the Soap-makers to great grievance, by Officers continually Night and Day diſturbing their Houſes, as is well remembred by ſome Soap-makers, who were Traders in the time of the late Civil Wars.

6. That there being already great Duties laid upon the Ingredients, Soap is made of, as aforeſaid, if an Exciſe be now laid on Soap it will be taxing the Labouring and Manufacturing of the Commodity, and a great Grievance to great numbers of poor People, who depend upon the ſaid Trade, and thoſe that uſe Soap, and what is got by one will in great meaſure be loſt by the other.

7. That the Multitude of Officers neceſſary to look after this Duty in all parts of *England* will be ſuch a very great charge and lyable to ſo much corruption that the Duty will ſignifie very little to the ends for which it is deſigned.

Which Reaſons *conſidered it is humbly hoped this Honourable Houſe will be pleaſed to lay aſide an Exciſe upon Soap.*

Againſt laying a Duty upon Soap.

Reaſons humbly Offer'd

TO THE

Honourable *Houſe of Commons*,

For the effectual Suppreſſing the exceſſive Drinking of the Liquor commonly called *GIN*, or Compound Spirits.

THAT the Drinking theſe Liquors is now become a Cuſtom throughout the Cities and Suburbs of *London* and *Weſtminſter*, as well as in moſt other Cities, Towns, and Villages in *England*, not only by Beggars, but by Servants, Apprentices, and Children of both Sexes; rendring them Diſeaſed, unfit for Labour, Poor, a Burthen to themſelves, and to their Pariſhes; and too often the Occaſion of weak and diſtempered Children; who muſt be, (inſtead of an Advantage, and Strength,) a Charge to their Country. And the fatal Effects of the frequent Uſe of theſe Diſtilled Spirits are but too viſible in the Army and Fleet.

That although it hath been the great Care of His Majeſty's Juſtices of the Peace, at every Quarter-Seſſions, to do their utmoſt Endeavours, to prevent the Drinking of theſe pernicious Liquors; and notwithſtanding the good and wholeſome Advice, that hath been delivered from the Pulpit; as well as the Diſcouragement it hath met with from the moſt Eminent Phyſicians, who have declared it their Opinion, that vaſt Numbers of Perſons are daily Deſtroyed by Drinking *GENEVA*, and ſuch Compound Liquors: Yet have all Methods, Advice, and Threats hitherto, proved ineffectual, and call for an immediate Remedy from this Honourable Houſe, to prevent the pernicious Conſequences of this Great and Growing Evil.

That all Pretences to endeavour to perſuade People, that the Revenues of the Crown will be conſiderably leſſened by the intended Act, are Falſe and Groundleſs; for 'tis plain by ſuppreſſing the common Uſe of theſe Liquors, there will be a greater Conſumption in ſeveral other Branches, which pay much greater Duties to the Crown.

That the great Scarcity of Corn, particularly Barley; and the many Tumults we have had in ſeveral Parts of the Country for want of it; plainly ſhew there are not ſuch large Stocks of Malt in the Maltſters and the Corn-Factors Hands as is pretended; and 'tis not to be believed, that Maltſters are like to be Sufferers by any Stock in Hand, when Malt bears ſo great a Price as it hath done for above a Year together.

Laſtly, It is humbly hoped, that the pretended Number of Compound Diſtillers, will by no Means, be a Reaſon for preventing the good Intentions of this Act; for that no private Conſiderations can Compenſate for the Ruin and Deſtruction Yearly brought on many Thouſand Families, by the Vending ſuch extravagant Quantities of *GIN*, &c.

All which is humbly ſubmitted to the Conſideration of this Honourable Houſe.

REASONS

Humbly Offer'd to the

Hon. HOUSE of COMMONS,

For the effectual Suppreſſing the Drinking of the Liquor commonly called *GIN*, *&c.*

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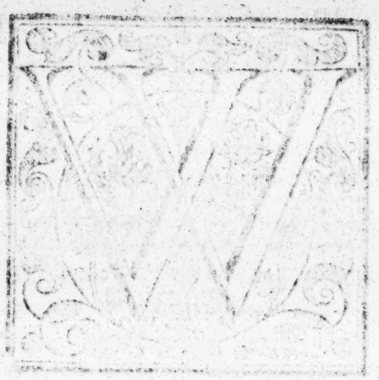
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By the King.

K. England
Charles I

A Proclamation for the well ordering the making of white Starch within the Realm, and for restraint of the Importation thereof from forreign parts.

WHereas ſundry great complaints have lately been made, and often renewed to Us, and Our Privie Councell of the great abuſes, damage and inconventences which have and daily ariſe to this Our kingdome, bythe great waſte, conſumption and converſion of wheat and grain of the growth thereof, fit for the food of man, into Starch, and by the annoyances occaſioned thereby to Our people by the making thereof in places unfit and inconvenient for the ſame; Wee therefore having duly weighed the quality of the ſaid complaints, wherein the CommonWealth is concerned, and conſidering that thoſe former provilions and Proclamations made by Us and Our Royall Father have not produced that good effect as was expected; Have incorporated ſundry meet perſons by Letters Patents under Our great Seal of England, , bearing date the ſix and twentieth day of December laſt, by the name of Maſter, Wardens, Aſſiſtants and Commonalty of the Society of Starch-makers of London, With power and priviledge to them and their Succeſſours to make and cauſe to be made in one joint ſtock and not otherwiſe, all and all manner of white Starch to put to ſale, and therewith to furniſh this Our Kingdome, Dominion of Wales, and town of Barwick at moderate and reaſonable prices, and to ſearch for and ſeize to Our uſe all ſuch Starch as ſhall at any time or times be made for ſale by any perſon or perſons not being members of the ſaid Company, except hee or they have ſerved to the ſaid Trade as Appren-



tice by the ſpace of ſeven yeers, or have ſeven yeers uſed the ſaid Trade as a member of the late Corporation of Starch-makers of London, and ſhall be admitted & allowed under the common Seal of the preſent Society, and alſo to ſeize all ſuch white Starch, as ſhall be imported into Our ſaid Realm, Dominion of Wales, Port or Town of Barwick; And that no perſon or perſons whatſoever ſhould preſume to make any Starch, other then for the wearing Linen of him, or them, and their families, as by the ſaid Letters Patents of incorporation more at large appeareth.

Now to the end that all Our loving Subjects may take knowledge of Our Royall pleaſure herein; Wee do hereby ſtraitly charge & command, that no perſon or perſons whatſoever, other then ſuch as are or ſhall be members of the ſaid Company of Starch-makers, or ſhall have ſerved ſeven yeers to the ſaid Trade as Apprentice, or as members of the late Corporation of Starch-makers have uſed that Trade ſeven yeers, and ſhall be admitted into the preſent Society (which they are freely to do upon requeſt) ſhall make any white Starch for ſale, or otherwiſe then for the wearing Linen of him, them, or their families, as is limited by the ſaid Letters Patents; And that no perſon or perſons whatſoever ſhall preſume to make the ſame of any Wheat-flour, Meal, or other Grain of the growth of this Our kingdome, or of other materials then of Pollard and Bran onely, or of grain to be imported from forreign parts: And to the intent that this Our Royall pleaſure may be effectually performed, and the foreſaid abuſes diſcovered and reformed; Wee have appointed a Surveyour, who being Our ſworn Officer is to take care hereof, and render Us an account from time to time, as there ſhall be cauſe.

And for that the former promiſcuous making of Starch in divers parts of this kingdome, was a ſpeciall reaſon that the ſaid Trade could not be regulated in an orderly way, but that divers ill affected perſons, living in remote places did convert and conſume great quantities of Wheat and Meal into Starch; Wee for the future prevention of all ſuch abuſes, do hereby ſtraitly charge and command, that no perſon or perſons being members of the ſaid Society, ſhall make or work, or cauſe to be made or wrought any white Starch to put to ſale in any other parts of Our Kingdome, but onely in or neer Our Citie of London, or in ſuch other parts and places as are or ſhall be allowed, and approved of by Us, or ſix or more of Our Privie Councell, nor in any other manner then by the ſaid Letters Patents of Incorporation is directed and appointed.

And Wee likewiſe do hereby ſtraitly charge and command, that no perſon or perſons, Our naturall born Subjects, Denizens, or Strangers, or others whatſoever, do hereafter import or bring, or cauſe to be imported or brought into Our Realm of England, Dominion of Wales, Port or Town of Barwick, from any the parts beyond the Seas, any white Starch whatſoever, upon pain of the forfeiture to Us of all ſuch white Starch, as ſhall be ſo imported, and of ſuch further penalties and puniſhments as ſhall be meet to be inflicted upon the contemners of Our Royall Commands herein.

And for the better diſcovery of the ſaid offences and offenders herein, Wee do hereby likewiſe authorize the ſaid Maſter, Wardens, Aſſiſtants, and Commonaltie of the ſaid

Society, and such as shall be in that behalf deputed by them under their common Seal (for whom they will answer) with the assistance of a Constable, or other lawfull Officer to enter into any Houses, Shops, Cellars, or other places whatsoever, and also into any Ships, Barks, or other Vessels, and there to search for, seiz and depolite in the hands of a lawfull Officer all such white Starch as shall be found to have been unduly made or imported by any person or persons, and likewise to deface, destroy and make spoyl of all Stuffe, Pollard, Bran, Meal, and other materials prepared for the making of Starch contrary to Our said Letters Patents, and Our Royall pleasure herein declared; And thereof to give notice to Our Treasurer, or Undertreasurer for the time being, within ten dayes next after every such seizure made.

And Wee do further straitly charge and command, That all Fats, Tubs, Stoves, Pans, Cesterns, and other Vessels or Utensels whatsoever, which shall hereafter be used or imployed for the steeping, drying, or making of any Starch contrary to Our said Letters Patents, and Our Royall pleasure herein declared, shall by the said Society of Starch-makers of London, or their Deputies (whom Wee do hereby in that behalf authorize, by, and with the assistance of a Constable or other lawfull Officer) be pulled up, defaced and made unserviceable, and that the persons offending therein be further proceeded against and punished as shall be meet for such their contempts.

And Wee do likewise further straitly charge and command, That no person or persons whatsoever, do at any time hereafter presume to withstand or oppose the said Company, their Searchers or Deputies in searching for White Starch unduely made or imported, or the Materials prepared for the making thereof contrary to the tenour hereof, or seizing of the same Starch or Materials prepared, or in the defacing, demolishing, or destroying of all such Fats, Tubs, Pans, Stoves, or other Utensels whatsoever, as shall be erected or used contrary to Our said Letters Patents.

And Our further Will and pleasure is, and Wee do hereby charge and command all and singuler the Officers of Our Customs within all and every the Ports and Havens of Our said Kingdome of England, and Dominion of Wales, and Town of Barwick, and the Creeks and members thereof; and also within Our Cinque Ports and the members thereof, That they and every of them do not onely forbear to take any Entrie or Entries, or give any Bill, or Warrant for unlading of any forreign White Starch, prohibited to be imported contrary to Our Royall pleasure herein declared, either by the name of Starch, or by or under any other name or title whatsoever; But do also cause stay, and seizure to be made thereof to Our use, and within ten dayes after such seizure or stay so made, to give notice of the same to the Master, Wardens and Assistants of the said Society for the time being, or their Deputies, upon pain of Our displeasure, and such other punishments as their contempts or neglects herein shall be found to deserve.

And Wee do further straitly charge and command, That no Grocer, Chapman, or other person who useth to buy Starch to sell again, shall buy, utter, sell, or otherwise barter, or vent any Starch which they shall know to have been made by any person or per-

ſons who is not a known member of the ſaid Company of Starch-makers; So as allwayes the ſaid Company and the members thereof be ready to ſell the ſame, at and for ſuch reaſonable prices, as by their Indenture under their common Seal, bearing date the ſix and twentieth day of December laſt paſt, they have undertaken, and covenanted with Us to ſell the ſame.

And that no perſon preſume to ſell any white Starch as a huckſter or hauker from door to door, in private or in ſecret, or otherwiſe then in their own proper and open Shops, or warehouſes.

And whereas divers perſons of mean and needy condition are and may happen to be imployed in the making of Starch, and preparing Materials for the making thereof by perſons of better ability and eſtate, not under the Rule and government of the ſaid Societie; Wee do hereby therefore declare, that the Owners, Leſſees, and Inhabitants of all and every the Houſe and Houſes wherein any ſuch Starch for ſale ſhall be made, or Materials prepared for that uſe, by any perſon or perſons whatſoever not by and under the rule and government of the ſaid Society, as well as the owners of ſuch Starch or Materials; and ſuch as by, or with their Moneys, Stock, Materials, or otherwiſe imploy or ſet them to work, ſhall be proceeded againſt, as contemners of Our Royall Commands.

And We do likewiſe ſtraitly charge and command all Juſtices of Peace, Mayors, Sheriffes, Bayliffs, Conſtables, Headboroughs, Tythingmen, and all other Our Officers and Miniſters; and alſo the Officers and Miniſters of Our Court of Admiralty and Cinque Ports, and all others to whom it ſhall appertain, that they and every of them at all times hereafter, and from time to time without excuſe or delay, be ayding and aſſiſting to the ſaid Society of Starch-makers of London, their Searchers, and Deputies, and to all Our Cuſtomers, Waiters, and all other perſon and perſons in the due execution of all, or any the premiſſes, when they ſhall be thereunto required, as they will anſwer to the contrary at their perils.

Given at Our Court at Whitehall the ninth day of February, in the fourteenth yeer of Our Reign.

God ſave the King.

Imprinted at London by Robert Barker, Printer to the Kings moſt Excellent Majeſtie: And by the Aſsignes of John Bill. 1638.

Given at Our Court at Whitehall the ninth day of February, in the fourteenth
Year of Our Reign.

God save the King.

Imprinted at London by Robert Barker, Printer
to the Kings most Excellent Majestie: And by the
Assignes of John Bill. 1638.

THE STATE OF THE CASE OF THE Sugar Plantations in America.

IN the Year 1666. the *Engliſh* were poſſeſt of *Berbado's*, the better half of St. *Chriſtophers*, *Mevis*, *Mountſerat*, *Antigna*, and *Sarenam*.

Thoſe Plantations did then employ above four Hundred Sayl of Engliſh Ships annually, and in them above Ten thouſand Engliſh Sea-men, and did alſo furniſh a Native Commodity of above Eight hundred thouſand Pounds value *per Annum* to this Nation, beſides a conſiderable Revenue to the Crown.

Of which Eight hundred thouſand Pounds, there was not above Forty thouſand Pounds *per Annum* clear Gain to the Planter, the reſt, beſides His Majeſties Duties, was diſtributed amongſt the People of *England*, in Exchange for their Proviſions, and Manufactures.

In the Year 1666. the *French* made Sugar on half of St. *Chriſtophers*, and a very inconſiderable quantity on *Martineco* and *Guadeloupa*.

In the ſaid year the *French* took from the *Engliſh* their half of St. *Chriſtophers*, *Antigna*, and *Mountſerat*, and in them above Fifteen thouſand *Negro's*, and Materials for One hundred and fifty Sugar-works, amounting in value to Four hundred thouſand Pounds, which they carryed to their own Sugar-Plantations, and are thereby not onely very much increaſed in the Making of Sugar, but in ſtrength alſo, by the coming to them of great Numbers from *France*, and from the Engliſh Colonies.

The *French* King bending his Deſign to be great at Sea, and knowing the Trade to the Plantations to be the beſt Nurſery for Sea-men, did furniſh his Weſt-India Company with a very great Stock of Money, for the better increaſing their Plantations, with many other Acts of Grace and Favor, in order to the Engroſſing of that Commodity, and beating the Engliſh out of that Trade.

And for the better compleating that Deſign, hath ſince the taking of the Engliſh Iſlands, impoſed a Cuſtom in *France* but of four Livres *per Cent.* upon the Sugars of his own Plantations of what quality ſoever, and fifteen Livres upon Whites, and thirty two Livres and ten Sous upon Refines made by the Engliſh, and all other Foreigners.

By reaſon of which great Impoſition, the Engliſh and other Foreign Sugars are not Tranſported into *France*, as formerly, and greater quantities of Foreign Sugars are Imported into *England*, which ſo leſſens the Value of the Engliſh Sugars, that there is very little Profit to the Planters in making them.

And the Engliſh Planter being incumbred in his Manufacture by a Cuſtom of Four and a half *per Cent.* in the Colonies, and Twelve and a half *per Cent.* in *England*, will be neceſſitated to lay down the Trade.

Or by reaſon of the little Profit in the Engliſh Plantations, where Sugars at the moſt are worth but Twelve ſhillings *per Cent.* whereas in the French they are worth Twenty ſhillings; the poorer ſort of Engliſh Planters, which are the Strength of the Colonies, will be neceſſitated to go over to the French, or other Plantations, as Sixteen hundred within this year laſt paſt have done from *Berbado's* alone.

By which means being weakned in their Defence, the *French* King may accompliſh his Ends, and by taking the Engliſh Plantations, make himſelf ſole Maſter of the Sugar Trade.

And ſhould the Sugar Trade be loſt, theſe Inconveniences would follow:

I. The Ten thouſand Engliſh Sea-men uſed in this Trade, muſt for a Livelyhood betake themſelves to other Employments, or ſerve the *French* who have gain'd it, by which means *England* will come to have Four hundred Sayl of Ships, and Ten thouſand Sea men leſs, and *France* Four hundred Sayl of Ships, and Ten thouſand Sea-men more, which will differ the former Ballance Eight hundred Sayl of Ships, and Twenty thouſand Sea-men, and being added to the other Naval Preparations of *France*, may make her equal, if not ſuperior to *England* in Power by Sea.

II. A Native Commodity of Eight hundred thouſand Pounds *per Annum* value being loſt to the Nation, many thouſand Families that ſubſiſted by this Trade will want wherewithal to pay the Landed-man for his Corn and Cattel, *&c.*

III. If the Growths of the Engliſh Sugar-Plantations formerly coſt Eight hundred thouſand Pounds *per Annum*, it muſt neceſſarily follow the Sugar-Plantations being loſt, the charge will again fall upon the Nation, and make One Million ſix hundred thouſand Pounds difference in the Ballance of Trade, and whether the Trade of this Nation can bear ſuch a Loſs, is ſubmitted.

And ſhould the Sugar Trade miſcarry, the *Guiny* Trade infallibly would be loſt alſo.

All which being conſidered, it plainly appears, That the Engliſh Plantations are no way able to bear any further Impoſitions upon their Sugars, whileſt *France* is ſo vigorouſly ſtriving to outvy the Engliſh in the Sugar Manufactures; but rather according to the Example of *France*, lay a higher Duty upon Foreign Sugars Imported, thereby enabling the Engliſh Planter (before it's too late) to ſtruggle with the *French* for the Maſtery of this Commodity, that ſo advantagious a Trade may not be totally loſt to this Nation.

The State of the Engliſh Sugar Trade, with that of Portugal.

If the *Portugal* Sugars be charged twice as high as the *Egnliſh*, it will injure the *Braſile* Planters, but not the *Engliſh* Merchant trading to *Portugal*

I. THe Planter of *Braſile* planting his Sugar Canes in low Mariſh Grounds, hath never any need to ſtock up and replant them, and having Horſes, Negro's, and Cattel much cheaper than they can poſſibly ever be afforded in any of the Engliſh Plantations, and alſo conveying his Wood and Canes to his Work, and his Sugar, all by Water, and Grinding all his Canes by Water alſo, Conveniences that cannot be had in any of the Engliſh Plantations, doth, and can produce Sugars 30 *per Cent.* cheaper than the Engliſh Planters

II. There was not Imported into *England* from *Portugal*, above Two thouſand Cheſts of Sugar annually, which do not coſt there above 40000 l. which makes it appear, that there is not ſo much of the Manufacture of *England* carryed into *Portugal*, as is pretended; or the Subſiſting of that Trade doth not depend upon their being able to Import Sugars into *England*, as in effect it doth not.

III. For one quarter of the Sugars receiv'd in *Portugal* in exchange of Engliſh Manufactures, are not brought into *England*, but are in Engliſh Ships carryed to the ſeveral Markets of the *Straights* and other Places, and Returns for them are made to *England*, either in the Manufactures of thoſe Places, or Money, which is a further Employment of our Shipping, and would be much more to the Advantage of the Nation, and no Damage to the *Portugal* Trade, to have all carryed the ſame way, than to have Returns made into *England* in Sugars, to the Benefit of the *Portugal* Plantations, and the Ruine of the *Engliſh*.

IV. The Sugars that are bought in *Portugal* for the Market of *England*, are the very beſt that come from *Braſile*, and are uſually ſold here from 3 l. to 3 l. 10 s. *per Cent.* whereas the Engliſh being by the Act of Navigation confin'd all to *England*, and the moſt part of their Whites being courſe in compariſon of thoſe of *Braſile*, are ſold for about 45 s. *per Cent.* ſo that if there be a penny a Pound laid upon the Engliſh Sugars, as well as upon Foreign; the Engliſh pay 9 s. 4 d. out of 45 s. and the Foreign but 9 s. 4 d. out of 65 s. which is the medium price, which makes it plain, the Engliſh white Sugars are charged above 35 *per Cent.* heavyer than the *Portugal* Sugars, which will ruine the Engliſh Sugar Trade, and the *Guiny* Trade that depends on it, which alone vents more of our Manufactures, than doth *Portugal*.

The Caſe between the Engliſh Sugar Plantations and the Refiners ſtated.

I. TWo thirds of the Planters of the Sugar Colonies do turn into Whites or Sun-dry'ds, all their Sugars they ſend to *England* for their own accompts, to buy themſelves Horſes, Clothes, Tools, Proviſions, Negro's, and other Neceſſaries, by which alone they are enabled to ſubſiſt.

II. The other third, who by reaſon of their Debts, or want of Stock, are not able to do this, do not bring both ends together, many are broken, and others have laid down the Trade.

III. Two Pounds of Brown Sugar will make one Pound of good Whites, as is by experience found: If white Sugars from the Plantations be Taxed one Penny, and Browns one Farthing, then is the Refiner able to ſupply the Market with white Sugar at a half penny a Pound leſs Impoſition than the Planter, which will beat him out of the white Sugar Trade, and undo him; and His Majeſty will come to have no more for this Duty, than if there were but a half penny the Pound at firſt ſet upon the white Sugar of the Plantations; So that the Queſtion here will be, Not whether His Majeſties Revenue ſhall be increaſed by ſetting a penny *per* Pound upon the white Sugars of the Plantations; (for it is plainly ſhewed it will not) But whether a few Refiners ſhall by Engroſſing that Trade be enrich'd, and the Plantations undone; there being already in *England* Refining-Houſes enough to Melt down and Refine all the Brown Sugars that come from the Plantations.

IV. The Engliſh Planters being beaten out of the White Sugar Trade, a few Refiners will Engroſs it; and being the onely Buyers of the Brown Sugars, will ſet what Rate they pleaſe upon them, and by further impovering the Planters, force thoſe few that remain to ſeek a Livelyhood in other places, which will be the utter undoing and loſs of the Sugar Colonies, not one third of the Planters reaping any Profit over and above the Charge from their Plantations already, and then the Refiners Trade will be at an end alſo.

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THE CASE

Of their MAJESTIES

SUGAR PLANTATIONS.

BEfore *England* had any Sugar-Plantations of its own, *Portugal* had about 400000 *l. Per Annum* for Sugar from *England*, to the great Inriching of *Portugal*, and Impoveriſhing of *England*.

The *Portugeeze* having ſet high Cuſtoms upon their Sugars,and letting none Trade at *Brazile* but themſelves,gave the *Engliſh* Encouragement to adventure upon Planting it; who have ſo increaſed, that they not only ſupply *England* with all the Sugar it wants, whereby 400000 *l.* paid *Portugal* formerly for Sugar, is ſaved; but great quantities of Sugars have been tranſported to foreign Markets, to the vaſt increaſe of the Wealth of this Kingdom, and by conſequence the value of the Lands of *England*.

In the Trade to the *Engliſh* Sugar-Plantations, about 800 Sail of *Engliſh* Ships, and 10000 Sea-men, are annually employed,beſides great quantities of Manufactures, and other the Product of *England* are carried thither for the uſe of the ſaid Plantations, *viz.* Cloth, Serges, Stuffs, Wearing-Apparel, Bread, Beer, Flouer, Horſe-Harneſs, Hoops, Guns, Gunpowder, Nails,Tools,and all ſorts of Iron-ware, Tin-ware, and Wooden-ware, Coals, wrought Copper, Lead, all ſorts of Houſehold-goods, and Materials for Building.

The *French* King taking notice of the great Wealth and Strength the Sugar-Plantations bring to the Kingdom of *England*, and alſo of the Difficulties the *Engliſh* Plantations are under, by reaſon of the Acts of Trade, which enjoyning all the Sugars of the *Engliſh* Plantations to be brought home to *England*, and there to be landed, and pay the King a Cuſtom, before it can be tranſported to the *Streights*, or any foreign Markets, which is a great charge; hath thought it feizable, and with great application hath ſet himſelf to become Maſter of that Trade; and the *Dutch* have done the ſame: and granting more Eaſe to their Planters, in producing and diſpoſing of their Sugars,than the *Engliſh* have, the *French* are ſo far increaſed, that their Sugar-Plantations do already find an Employment for a great number of Ships and Sea-men, and are increaſing daily: And the *Dutch* have already many Ships annually loaden with Sugar from *Surinam*, which they make a Buſineſs of State to improve.

This increaſe of the Sugar-Trade of the *French* and *Dutch*, had, before the laying the additional Duty in the Reign of the late King *James*, brought thoſe Sugars that were worth between 5 and 6 *l.* the hundred weight, when the laſt Book of Rates was made, to be worth now not above 45 *s.* out of which the Planter pays 5 *s.* Cuſtom, and 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ *per* hundred to the King in the Plantations; inſomuch that an Eſtate which was heretofore (when Sugar was at that rate) worth 2000 *l. per annum* in the Plantations, came then not to be worth 600 *l. per annum*, which was not after the rate of 3 *per Cent.* for their Stocks: For which reaſon the Planters, before the laying on the additional Duty, intended to have addreſſed to the Parliament for reducing the Book of Rates to the preſent Value of Sugars.

This low Value of the Commodity cauſed many of the Inhabitants of the *Engliſh* Collonies to forſake them,before the laying the ſaid Duty,and go to other places, whilſt the King of *France* uſeth all imaginable induſtry to ſtrengthen and fill his Plantations (ſome of which are in ſight of ours) with Inhabitants; having made *Dunkirk* a free Port for his own Sugars, where no Cuſtoms are paid in or out: by reaſon of which the Markets of *Flanders* and *Holland*, &c. are furniſhed with *French* Sugars at 2 *s.* 6 *d. per* hundred cheaper than the *Engliſh* can, by reaſon of the Acts of Trade.

This increaſe of the ſtrength of the *French* Plantations and decreaſe of the *Engliſh*, hath made many of the Planters conſider of withdrawing their Stocks, for fear if a War ſhould happen with *France*, all would be loſt.

The *Engliſh* Sugar-Trade being apparently decaying under the old Duty upon Sugar, can by no means bear the new,and ſubſiſt; and it is of great advantage to *France* to have our Plantations ruined by the continuance of this Impoſition on our Sugars: for ſhould the *French* gain the Sugar-Trade from the *Engliſh*, *England* would loſe the Employment of 800 ſail of Ships, and 1000 Sea-men, and *France* would gain it; which would differ the preſent balance of Sea-men 20000, beſides the loſs of a Native Commodity, that hath brought ſo much Wealth to the Kingdom, and would alſo be the loſs of the Trade of *Guinea*, which is upheld by the Plantation-Trade.

It hath ever been the Practice and Policy of Trading Nations,to ſet the Publick Tax on Forreign Commodities,and not thoſe of their own Growth.

In the time of the Uſurper *Cromwell*, when all things were raked into, to find a Revenue to ſupport his Uſurpation, no Exciſe was put on Sugars of the Growth of the *Engliſh* Plantations.

England is an Iſland whoſe Wealth and Strength conſiſts in Trade, which cannot be preſerved, but by being Maſter at Sea; and the Plantation Trade is near one half of the Navigation of *England*, and whether it be ſo convenient to hazard the loſs of it, by laying a Burden upon it that it cannot bear, ſince an Impoſition may be ſet on Commodities of Forreign growth, that will be equivalent, is humbly ſubmitted.

This was the ſinking Condition of the *Engliſh* Sugar-Plantations when the late King *James* the Second came to the Throne; when an Additional Tax was projected upon Sugar, and a Bill brought into the then Houſe of Commons, for the laying of an Additional Duty of 2 *s.* 4 *d. per Hundred*, upon all *Muſcovado* Sugar, and 7 *s. per Hundred weight*, upon all Sugars made fit for common uſe or ſpending of the *Engliſh* Plantations. Againſt which Duty the Planters Petitioned, and ſet forth how unable they were to bear the ſaid Tax. To which the Projectors of the ſaid Tax replyed, *It was ordered in the ſaid Bill, that it was to be paid by the firſt Buyer, and that it would be born by the Conſumptioner,and not at all affect the Planter*,whom they acknowledged were not able to bear it. To which the Planters alledged, *That notwithſtanding the pretended Proviſion made in the ſaid Bill, it would fall wholly upon the Planter.* And the Houſe being preſſed to paſs the ſaid Bill, by the Miniſters of State that were of the Houſe; and told by one of them from the King,*That if by Experience it was found to fall upon the Plauter, he would forbear to Collect it; and at the next Meeting of the Parliament, exchange it for ſome other Revenue.* And ſome Members who ſpake againſt the ſaid Tax, being required to deſiſt: And the Planters threatned, in caſe they perſiſted in their oppoſition; the ſaid Bill was paſſed into an Act of Parliament.

Since which, ſeveral Petitions were preſented from the Sugar-Plantations, to the late King; ſhewing, *That the ſaid Tax was wholly born by the Planters, the Buyers utterly refuſing to deal for any Man's Sugars, unleſs he would pay the ſaid Additional Duty: And when the ſaid Duty was paid by the Planter, he could ſell his Sugar for no more then he did before any ſuch Duty was impoſed, but rather lower; and which entirely going out of the ſmall Profit the Planter had by making Sugar, could not be born by them: Wherefore, humbly deſired, they might be eaſed of the ſaid Duty, according to the ſaid King's Promiſe to the Houſe of Commons:* but could get no Anſwer to the ſaid Petitions, but were referred to the Commiſſioners of the Cuſtoms, ſome of which were the Projectors of the ſaid Tax; and were told, That *it was an undecent, not to ſay an undutiful thing, to put the King in mind of his Promiſe.* Whereby many of the Families who before lived comfortably, are already undone,ſeveral Sugar-works ruin'd, and a general Diſcouragement laid on all the *Engliſh* Sugar-Plantations, and the Expence of our Manufactures, and the Product of this Kingdom extreamly leſſened: Whilſt at the ſame time the *French* King gives Encouragement to his Plantations, who increaſe in Strength, whilſt the Inhabitants of the *Engliſh* Sugar-Plantations deſert them daily for want of means to get a Livelyhood there; which will ſo weaken them of Defendants, that they are in great danger to become a Prey to the *French*, or their own *Negro* Slaves; which will be a total loſs of that profitable Trade to this Kingdom, and be the Ruine of many thouſand Families who ſubſiſt by it.

If any one doubts that the Burden of the ſaid Impoſition falls wholly upon the Planter, it is ready to be made out by undeniable Demonſtration; which the Projectors of this Impoſition had never the Confidence to pretend they were able to bear.

A STATE of the PRESENT CONDITION OF The Iſland of Barbadoes: WITH

Some Reaſons, Why there ought not to be any more Duties or Impoſts laid on Sugars than what already are; ſhewing, that they pay full as much as thy can bear, and that they who make that Manufactory, pay more in proportion, than any other of His Majeſty's Subjects.

By a Merchant, Trading to the Weſt-Indies.

IN the Iſland of *Barbadoes*, by Mr. *Ford*'s Survey, is about 100000 Acres of Land, a great part of which, is Barren, Rocky Gullies, Runaway-Land, Waſte Land, &c. and all the reſt much worn out, and not ſo Fertile as it was. The Inhabitants have laid a Duty of 4 ½ *per Cent.* on their Sugars and other Commodities made or produced there; which the King hath, amounting to about 10000 l. Sterling *per. Ann.* And the Sugars of that Iſland pay to the King when they come to *England*, 1 *s.* 6 *d.* for every Hundred of brown, and 5*s.* for every Hundred of white Sugars, with other Cuſtoms on Ginger, Moloſſes, &c. which in its Proſperity amounted to, by a moderate Computation, above 30000 *l. per Ann.* more. This is Matter of Fact. Add this to the other, and it will and doth plainly appear, that they are higher than a Tax on their Land of 8 *s.* in the Pound (which take one Acre with another of that which is fit to be Cultivated, is not worth 1 *l. per* Acre *per Ann.*) Beſides, they are forced to Tax themſelves to maintain His Majeſties Government and Governor there: They build and repair their Fortifications, &c. And by extraordinary Taxes on themſelves over and above thoſe Duties, they, by God's providence, relieved the Lee-ward Iſlands from the French Inſults, until the King's Forces came to their farther Relief; and afterwards, ever ſince this War, they have been at vaſt Expence in every Expedition: Inſomuch, that one Tax on themſelves for His Majeſty's Service, amounted to 30000 *l.* Sterling.

It is evident to all who know that Iſland, that the late Impoſition on Sugars, Ruin'd many Families there, and brought moſt others into a very low Condition, which with the ſad effects of the War (which fell heavy on the Traders and Planters of that Iſland,) and other Difficulties they labour under, one Third part of that little Iſland now lyes Waſte, which was once fauly Cultivated: So that now they have not 3000 Chriſtian Men of all ſorts, including the Impotent, on the whole Iſland, to defend themſelves; when once in its proſperity there were near 10000 effective Men in it. And that Iſland in its Proſperity, for ſeveral Years, employed near 400 Sail of Ships a Year, which is now leſſened one Third part of what it was.

If more Impoſitions ſhould be lay'd on the Manufactories of that Iſland, as all Sugars are, even the worſt ſort of them, as well as the Whites, they would utterly ruin that Iſland, and in the end will give the greateſt Blow to *England* that ever befell this Nation, for theſe Reaſons following.

I. It is a notorious Truth, that more than one Third of the Navigation of this Kingdom, it is meant of the Trading part (not to mention the Royal Navy) depend on the Engliſh *America* Plantations.

II. *Barbadoes* lyes to the Windward of the other Iſlands, *viz.* The Lee-ward Iſlands ſo called.

III. The *French* are next to that Iſland, and Windward of all the ſaid other Engliſh Sugar-Iſlands; ſo that if it were not the fear they are in of the *Barbadoes* Strength (which once they had) they might eaſily deſtroy all our other Sugar Plantations; but ſhould they attempt any ſuch thing, the Engliſh from *Barbadoes* (if they have Strength) can be down upon them in Four and twenty Hours, but cannot turn it up again in a conſiderable time; and ſo it is with the *French*.

Now, ſhould a higher Impoſt be laid on their Sugars, the Inhabitants would be Ruined; they could not bear it, as the woful Inſtances we have lately had plainly ſhew, by one third of the Iſland now lying Waſte, many of the Inhabitants Dead and gone off the Iſland; and thoſe that are left, their Buildings and Works are out of Repair, for want of the many Artificers who left the Iſland by the diſcouragement of the late Impoſition, which affected them as well as it did every individual Inhabitant of that Iſland: So that the beſt Plantations which formerly were in the greateſt

Eſteem, do not now, nor have not for ſeveral Years laſt paſt, produced to the Owners half what they uſually did. Theſe are not Fallacies, but real Truths and melancholy Sights throughout the whole Iſland. And ſhould that Iſland be loſt, (which God forbid) that now is in imminent Danger, what would the Conſequence be? All the Leeward Iſlands muſt inevitably follow; they would not be able to reſiſt. There will be a farther ill Conſequence yet: *Jamaica* then will be a fair Mark for a French Conqueſt; they could not hold out long, the French are Still to Windward, and can ſend their Forces down to *Petty-Guavers* with ſmall Charge, and would ſo annoy that Place, that in a few Months it muſt of neceſſity Surrender, and be loſt from the Engliſh Nation.

The next miſchief by thoſe Loſſes, will affect the Northern Engliſh Colonies, who are of great uſe to *England* for their Maſts, Timber, and breeding of Seamen, Navigation, &c. All which (except *Virginia* and *Mary-Land*, and they in part too) have their chief dependance on *Barbadoes*, the *Leeward-Iſlands* and *Jamaica*, for their Lumber and Fiſhery; that would be all at an end, they having very little uſe for any Navigation directly for *England*, but what they have by a Trade to the Sugar Iſlands and other Colonies, which is very conſiderable to the Intereſt of *England*: Which Trade if it ſhould be loſt, will be the loſs of more than one third of the Navigation of this Nation. What then will become of the Handy-crafts Men of this Kingdom, Tradeſmen, Merchants Manufactory and Product of this Nation? Would not the greateſt part of that fail? Doth not the *America* Plantations at this time employ ſeveral Thouſands of Families and poor People in this Kingdom? And moſt certain it is, that our *America* Plantations take off more of the Manufactories of *England* than any other Trade abroad whatſoever. If all this was conſidered, ſure no thinking Man would deſire higher Duties to be laid on a Commodity ſo uſeful and advantagious (as our Sugars are) to this Kingdom and Nation, to bring ruin and deſtruction in a great meaſure to the Kingdom and People to whom they belong, as laying on more Duties on that of our own Plantations will effectually do: For this I affirm, that the Inhabitants of *Barbadoes* do pay much more to the King's Coffers, and in maintaining his Government there in proportion to their Eſtates, than any Men in *England*. Nor is the other Engliſh Sugar Plantations of leſs Importance to *England*, in proportion to their Value,

If that Iſland of *Barbadoes* ſhould be loſt, which is in great danger, the French would never part with it, they would quickly find it to be (as really it is) the Key of the whole *Weſt-Indies*; they would value it for its breeding ſo many Seamen as it doth in Peaceable times, and might do the ſame in all times of War, they would not part with it on any terms for the ſake of its Situation as well as its other Advantages, notwithſtanding its Barrenneſs, if it were only a Gariſon to Awe all the Leeward Iſlands.

There hath been a Notion among the Refiners or Sugar-Bakers, and others as Ignorant and Malicious as themſelves, That it would be an advantage to *England*, not to ſuffer the People in the Sugar Plantations to Manufacture their Sugars there, but have them brought hither to *England* to be Refined; which in their firſt Conception is a meer imaginary Chimera, for all ſorts of brown Sugars are Manufactured from the Cane, with more Skill, Charge, Trouble, Time, Hazard, Pains and Loſſes ten times told, than Refining; and the Whites are Manufactured likewiſe, and thoſe but of ſome ſorts of Lands, and but from ſome ſuch Canes as are proper for it neither; the Charge whereof is ſo great, that ſome very few Sugar Planters employed more People than all the Refiners of Sugar in *England*, put them all together; ſo uſeful are the Plantations to *England* above and beyond the Refiners. Some Lands will produce Canes which naturally makes Sugar of double the goodneſs of other Lands: And Lands for Sugar, (which muſt be the beſt) is Rented generally for 20 *s.* an Acre *per* Year, or under, and they pay at leaſt 20 *s.* for as much Seed-Canes as will plant an Acre, but often 25 *s.* ſometimes 30 *s.* And you cannot produce Canes as that Iſland is and muſt now be Managed, by means of its Barrenneſs, to make Sugar oftner than every two Years, of any one parcel of Land; and this Acre of Land in Canes, if it be Dunged and Planted as it ought to be, ſhall coſt the Planter Ten Pounds at leaſt, which conſidered, may modeſtly introduce this Queſtion, Whether *Europe*, nay, the whole Univerſe, affords ſuch another Spot of Land in proportion to its bigneſs, ſo laborious, and yet ſo advantagious to its Mother Country, as *Barbadoes* is to *England*: Which may ſufficiently detect the Deſigns of theſe Projecting Refiners or Sugar-Bakers, who would Sacrifice whole Countries to their exorbitant Wills, could they effect their Ends by their ſpecious pretences, not ſparing *England* it ſelf.

This unreaſonable Reſtraint, ſhould it take effect, would diſcourage all Ingenuity of Engliſhmen abroad, and confound that part of our Trade at home to ſuch a degree, that the French (who have conſiderable Sugar Plantations) would have great reaſon to reward the Refiners or Sugar-Bakers, and their Scribling pretended Merchant, whoſe Ignorance is ſuch, that it plainly appears by his Book, Intituled, *An Anſwer to a Pamphlet, called the Groans of the Plantations*; that the many Untruths therein ſhew that he knoweth nothing of the Plantations nor their Circumſtances. Should that Project take effect, they would approve themſelves to be the beſt Projectors that ever contrived Proſperity and Greatneſs to the French King and his People, by our Miſeries and Beggary, who improve their Sugars in their Plantations abroad, while poor Engliſh-men in our Plantations, muſt, by that Method, ſhould it take effect (which God forbid) drudge in making *Muſcovado* Sugar, only (upon a meer Notion that improving Sugars abroad, leſſens the Bulk, and ſo conſequently Navigation; when all the World knows, that underſtands any thing of Improving Sugars Abroad, that the Offil part (ſo called there) which comes from the * Improved Sugars, makes up into a trifle what the finer ſort of Sugar is leſs in Weight or Quantity; and from that Offil (ſo called) is made a good ſort of brown Sugar.) All which Miſchief, can do no other Good, but, is deſigned for the Service and Intereſt of about Forty or Fifty Refiners, or Sugar-Bakers, which God knows, will not be their Intereſt neither; for the French have a great part of the Sugar-Trade, already, which is advanced by their encouraging their Plantations, and our decreaſed by Diſcouragements,

ments, and will continue ſo to do, till at length it may be feared, that our Refiners or Sugar-Bakers will have but very little in reſpect to what they otherwiſe might have, to Refine but what may come from *France*, out of their Plantations, which in time will moſt certainly be the Event, unleſs our Plantations are more encouraged than they have been; by which they will exactly ſimilate the Dog in the Fable, by loſing thoſe brown Sugars they now have from *Barbadoes* and the Leeward Iſlands too: in ſtriving at only a Shadow, as that of having all the Sugars in *Barbadoes* confined only to Browns, (tho much of their Lands will afford no other) by which in a little time they would in probability looſe both the *Barbadoes* and other Sugars too, as in this Paper is ſet forth, to the ſhame and reproach of all ſuch ill Projecting Men, who would venture at the ruin of their own Country for an imaginary Profit.

Another Notion they have is, That the Planters neglect paying their Debts, (as no queſtion but ſome do, as well as in *England* and other parts of the World,) by laying the ſtreſs of their Argument on the Planters living in Luxury, and Shipping their Sugar while the Merchant goes unpaid, and a deal of ſuch Stuff; who, tho' there might be ſome Extravagant and ill Men there, as there are all over the World, and as well as a worſe ſort of Men in *England*, I mean Refiners, who, perhaps for ill Ends would Charge the Faults of particular Perſons on the Generality of a whole Countrey, which is ſuch an unfair way of arguing that nothing but Ignorance it ſelf would venter at ſuch a miſtaken Aſſertion; for the Planters chief Dealings in *Barbadoes*, are for Bills of Exchange payable in *London*, which the Merchant chooſeth to Deal for, rather than Money there; great part of which way of Dealing is, what cannot be avoided, without a prejudice both to the Merchant Planter, and the Intereſt of *England* in General.

Nor is their Deſign ſo ſecretly carried on, but its eaſie to diſcover that if they Gain either of theſe Points, *viz.* of another Impoſt or Reſtraining the Planter from making (that is) Manufacturing his Sugars according to the Nature and Quality of the Ground, and Circumſtances of the goodneſs of his Canes, and uſing his Skill and Ingenuity therein, they, the ſaid Refiners, or Sugar Bakers, will be able to ſet the Price, and govern the Market of Sugar as they pleaſe, to the great Diſadvantage of this Nation. Beſides, to lay that Reſtraint on the Planters (not to improve their Sugars to the beſt Advantage) is to deny them the Priviledges of *Engliſh* Men, who are no other but *Engliſh* Men: They are your Countrey-Men, your Kindred and Relations, and they ought not to be thus Barbarouſly uſed. It may be truly affirmed, that it is the Planters and Settlers of our *America* Plantations, to whom *England* owes its greateſt Riches and Proſperity; what ever miſtaken Notions unthinking Men have conceived to the contrary.

Would it not be as Reaſonable to confine all the Maulting and Brewing of *England* only to *Middleſex* and *Eſſex*? And Compel all the other Counties not to Brew, nor make their own Mault, but to be confined only to thoſe two Counties.

Theſe Refiners would do well to go and Manufacture the Canes in the Plantations, by which they would be better able to know with what Charge and Art its done, and then let them be Judges, and Publiſh to the World what Reaſon there would be for a company of Upſtarts to eat the Bread out of their Mouths, by endeavouring to have the benefit of their Labours taken away from them by others, as they intend to do, and have done to the Planters, to the utter Ruin of ſeveral whole Families, and the neer Impoveriſhing of others, as well as the great Miſchief they have already done to *England*, beſides what may follow.

The Refiners, or Sugar-Bakers, do not conſider how very uſeful thoſe *Engliſh* Sugar Plantations are to *England*; nor that there are, and always will be Brown Sugar enough, if the Plantations are preſerved for them to get more Money by, (with a fourth part of the Charge, Pains, Trouble, Hazard, and Fatigue,) than the Planters can, in proportion to the Stocks employed, out of the Brown Sugar; a great part of which cometh from *Barbadoes* produced out of ſuch Land as cannot produce ſuch Canes as are fit for Claying, to make Whites, *&c.*) as alſo the Brown Sugars from the Leeward Iſlands, whoſe Lands being more Fertile, are managed with One Fourth part of the Toyl and Charge; and their Sugars are made with leſs Expence than that of *Barbadoes*, whoſe Land is ſo worn out, that none of it will turn to any conſiderable Account, without Extraordinary Charges, in Dunging and Managing of it, (tho' formerly it would) the difference is ſo great, that 100 Negroes in *Barbadoes*, cannot Plant and Dung ſo many Acres of Canes as 25 can Plant in *Antigua*, and the *French* Iſlands, whoſe Lands are ſo Fertile, that they need not the Dreſſing, and Dunging that the Land in *Barbadoes* requires: And when they have done all they can, they cannot produce much above half of the Sugar; which if they were compelled not to improve, ſuch part as is proper for Claying (take one Plantation with another) the Inhabitants could not Subſiſt, they would be forced to leave the place, and you may be ſure the *French* would be glad of having it, if it were only to make a Garriſon: For the greateſt part of it is Fortifyed by Nature, and the reſt by many Years Charge, and Pains of the Inhabitants, is ſo well Fortifyed by Art, that if they can be encouraged to ſtay on it, ſo that their leſſened Numbers may be Augmented in the whole to about four or 5000 Men Inhabitants, which may be done without any Charge to *England* (it is not meant Soldiers in Pay) no Enemy can in humane probability take that place with more than double the Number, but as it is in great danger of being loſt, to their own Negroes, ſhould they Rebel with ſucceſs (which God in Mercy prevent) as well as the danger of a Foreign Enemy.

And it is worth any Compaſſionate Man's Obſervation to conſider, how the Militia of that Iſland is; All Men in *Barbadoes* (except the Council, and they too in caſe of danger) of what Rank ſoever, even the Judges, and Aſſembly-Men, and all others muſt appear in Arms at Beat of Drum, or Sound of Trumpet, and do ſuch Servile Military Duties, in Perſon, in order to the Defence thereof, at every Mans own Charge, without any Pay, as would be looked upon unreaſonable for any Man of Intereſt to undergo in *England*; while the Sugar-Bakers live in Security, Eaſe, and Plenty, without the leaſt Regard or Pity of their Country-Men, and Fellow-Subjects,

whoſe

whoſe unpleaſant Lives give them the Opportunity of getting Riches. Notwithſtanding they owe their Riſe and Eſtates to the Plantations, and notwithſtanding they were an inconſiderable Number of Refiners within 30 Years laſt paſt, to what they now are, nor muſt it be forgot that 3 Pound of their White Sugar will not ſweeten much more than two pound of *Barbadoes* White, neither is it ſo clean nor wholſom.

Another Notion which ſome Men have, is, That the Plantations drain the Kingdom of Men. I would only ask this Queſtion of thoſe Perſons, if all the Men that are in the Plantations, which are but very few in Compariſon to *England* (yet the Uſefulleſt and Profitableſt Subjects the King hath in their Station, and in proportion to their Eſtates) were brought to *England*, whether half of them would not in all probability Starve for want, and moſt of the other half live in miſerable Penury, and the reſt be an Addition to the Number of thoſe who ſhift for Livelihoods, I will not ſay on the High-Way, or begging Alms? Perhaps it would then be thought adviſable, that the young Stock of little or no Fortunes in this populous Kingdom would be of great Uſe, and Advantage to the Nation, Themſelves, their Friends, and Relations, in ſettling Colonies to the Advantage of their Mother Country, and deſerve a Subſiſtence at leaſt, without the unreaſonable Preſſures of about 50 Refiners of Sugar: Should they be brought home, and no more go out, what would become of moſt of the Manufactures of *England*, the Tradeſmen, Traders, Merchants? Would the Farmer be able to pay ſuch Rents as they now do? All your other Trades would quickly fail, and your Navigation would ſoon be at an end. Who are they that go abroad to Settle and Traffick in the General? Are they not the moſt uſeleſs in the Nation for the greateſt part? When they get Eſtates as moſt Trades do, (not ſo frequently the bare Planter.) Do they not come to *England* and ſettle there? Do not the Planters and others ſend their Children to be Educated, and when they have gotten Eſtates, do not they chooſe to ſettle in *England*, that pleaſant Country? Rather than thoſe hot Countries which are not neer ſo pleaſant, nor do they afford the Neceſſaries of Life, which ſweet *England* ſupplies them with (which without them muſt abate of its Luſtre) where then is the Draining of *England*, whoſe Intercourſe of Navigation (if it be kept up, and Protected) is like the Circulation of the Blood in the Natural Body of Mankind. And without it would be but a Poor Nation, whoſe dependance is chiefly on Navigation: Great part of which, as is already ſaid, depends on the *Engliſh America* Plantations, whoſe Sugars have made many Hundred Men's Fortunes in the City of *London*, as well as in other parts of the Kingdom; among whom the Projecting Refiners may be Numbred (whoſe Gratitude to the Plantations one would think ought to have heen Expreſſed in ſome other way, than Projecting their Ruin) beſides the large Exportations of Sugar, in the Proſperity of the Plantations, brought into *England* great Quantities of Money, and would do the like again to a far higher Degree, were they Incouraged, and Navigation Protected, even beyond any one Trade abroad, that *England* Trades to, (the meaneſt of which is very Advantagious to it, and its People in General) but if neglected, may give the *French* the Opportunities of Exporting, and Supplying all thoſe parts which *England* of late Furniſhed, and may in few Years again, at as eaſie Rates or Prizes as they formerly did; which can be made appear, will be more Advantage to the Planters in General, than the Extream Prizes that Sugars are now come to. When the Reaſons are ſeriouſly Conſidered, and with leſs Duties, would raiſe much more Monies to the King's Coffers than they now do, have done, or can do with higher Duties, provided the Plantations are incouraged as they ought to be, which may be done without any Charge to *England*; but on the contrary its Profit, and would employ more Handicraftſmen, and Tradeſmen of all ſorts in this Nation than they ever yet did; and in few Years after a Peace, may Employ more Navigation than they have heretofore done: Beſides the Merchants and others in *England*, concerned in that Trade, would be the only Exporters of Sugars of any Conſideration in the World, and would Effectually defeat the *Scotch* of ſettling any Sugar Plantations of any worth in the *Weſt-Indies*, by profitable Meaſures that may be taken in the Accompliſhment thereof, which will be of greater Importance and Advantage to *England*, than any other Trade or Commerce whatſoever, which would cauſe the Leſſening, if not the Fall of the *French*, now Flouriſhing Sugar Plantations in a few Years.

All which Conſidered, it is hoped will be ſufficient Reaſons, why no more Duties or Impoſts ought to be laid on Sugars, nor the Makers thereof compelled not to improve them to the beſt Advantage.

If theſe Men had propoſed the laying on of higher Duties on all Foreigners Sugars, and other their Commodities and Manufactories of thoſe Species which our Plantations do make, they might then perhaps have approved themſelves to be true *Engliſh*-Men, and lovers of their Country and Country-Men; when the other ſhews plainly the direct contrary, even perfect Enemies to the Wellfare of *England*, and the *Engliſh* Nation.

To Conclude, it is yet in the power of *England* to have all the *Weſt-India* Sugar Trade in their own Hands in a few Years, if they pleaſe, by which they may work even the *Portugueſe* out of the Sugar Trade, who Clay moſt of their Sugars, as well as the *French* (whoſe Sugar Plantations of late have ſeemed to Vie with the *Engliſh*) which muſt, and nothing elſe ſo much abroad beyond Seas, can give the *Engliſh* Nation ſuch an Opportunity of breeding Seamen, and out-doing our Neighbouring Nations in point of Navigation; but as the Caſe now ſtands, the Sugar Plantations are in great danger of being out-done by the *French*, whoſe Advantage and Advancement in their Sugar Plantations are obtained chiefly by our Diſcouragements.

If any Riches are gotten abroad, England *is the place where it Centers, which reaps the ſole Advantage and Intereſt of the Plantations.*

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816 m. 12 - 159

REASONS

Humbly Offered 268

(In behalf of the Iſland of *Barbados*) to the Honourable *Houſe of Commons*, againſt laying a further Duty on SUGAR.

IN this Caſe it is to be conſidered, whether an additional Duty on Sugar will not fall upon the Plantations that produce it, and not on the Conſumer in *England*; and if it appears that it will, and muſt be born by the Plantations, what will be the Conſequences thereof?

As to the firſt, That it will fall on the Plantations, is evident, both by Experience and Reaſon. For,

1*ſt*. When the additional Duty of 2 *s*. 4 *d*. *per Cent*. wt. on Muſcovado, and 7 *s*. *per Cent*. wt. on all Sugars fit for common Uſe, was impoſed in the Reign of the late King *James*, at *Barbados* Sugars fell preſently in price more than the ſaid Duty amounted to; *viz*. Muſcovado from 12 *s*. to 9 *s*. *per Cent*. wt. and all ſorts of clay'd and white Sugar at leaſt 7 *s*. *per Cent*. wt. whereby the Planter loſt ſo much of the Produce of his Sugar.

2*ly*. In *England* the Grocers refuſed to buy the Sugars, unleſs the Importer firſt paid the Duty, tho' the Act provided expreſly that the Conſumer ſhould pay it, and when the ſame was paid, the Importer could not, nor did not ſell his Sugars at a higher Price than before the Duty was impoſed, which was the Reaſon why the Merchant who imported the Sugars, could not afford to bring them, unleſs he bought them in *Barbados* ſo much lower as the Duty amounted to.

3*ly*. The Planters being thus preſſed, above one third part of the Iſland were forced to give over making Sugars, and to turn their Plantations to raiſe Proviſions, and ſome were left waſt; and if the Duty had continued, more muſt have followed the ſame Courſe.

Theſe are things moſt certainly true in Fact, and ready to be proved, and therein we are inſtructed by Experience, (the beſt Miſtreſs) That the late New Duty fell on the Planters, wherein Reaſon alſo concurs. For,

1. Sugar is a Commodity not uſed out of Neceſſity, but Choice; and the poor and meaner ſort of People, amongſt whom is the greateſt Expence of ordinary Sugar, will not uſe it, unleſs it be cheap, at leaſt not in any great Quantity, and the richer ſort will when it is dear, abate much in their Expence of it, in making Preſerves, *Engliſh* Wines, *&c*. and this has been notoriouſly ſeen during the late War, when by reaſon of the great Loſſes, high Charges, *&c*. Sugar was dear.

2. Plenty and Scarcity of Commodities always govern the Market or Price, and in time of Peace, if the ſame Quantities are imported as uſually have been, they muſt be cheap, and no Conſideration will be had of the Duties as

was lately found, and if they grow dearer, it muſt be occaſioned by the ſmall Quantity imported, which can happen by no means, but by the greateſt part of the People deſerting the Plantations, which will moſt certainly be the Event.

What the Conſequences of this Duty being born by the Planter will be, is eaſily foreſeen from the following Conſiderations.

1. The charge of producing Sugar when only the old Subſidy was on, was two third parts of what it yielded when made; *viz.* 8 *s.* Charge, to produce 1 *Cent.* wt. of Sugar, which when made would ſell but for 12 *s.* and therefore the preſent double Subſidy, if it continues long, muſt cauſe many more Plantations to be deſerted or turned to Proviſions. But if any further Duty be laid, the Charge being ſo great, none will continue making Sugar, which muſt bring them conſiderably in Debt every year.

2. The Plantations already deſerted or turned to Proviſions, have abated the Expence of great Quantities of our *Engliſh* Manufacturies and Proviſions, (there having been formerly near 100000 people of all ſorts there, who have their Cloathing and all Neceſſaries from *England*, and much of their Proviſions) and the ſame will ſtill leſſen more and more, as the ſaid Plantation is further burthened.

3. The ſaid Iſland, which hath in the time of its proſperity employed near 400 Sail of Veſſels yearly, and thereby encreaſed the Navigation and Number of Seamen, and added to the Strength of *England*, does not now employ above half the Number, and both this and the laſt Article the Cuſtom-Houſe Books will evince: And if the Planters are more loaded, there muſt ſoon be an End put to any Uſe of Shipping thither, or any Expence of the Manufacture and Proviſions from *England*.

4. The Drawing back the Duty on Exportation is no Eaſe to the Plantations, for the Planter receives no more than what the Sugar ſells for clear of the Duty and all Charges, and that is the ſame whether it be conſumed in *England*, or exported abroad, and the Duty drawn back: If it be Exported, the Forreigner has it ſo much the cheaper as the Duty is which is drawn back; but it is all one to the Planter, with reſpect to his particular Intereſt, whether the King has it, or the Forreigner; whoever has it, the Planter is ſure to pay it.

5. Other Nations vye with us in the Production of this Commodity, and therefore it is the Intereſt of *England* to preſerve and encourage its own Plantations above all things: The *French* and *Dutch* do ſo, the former have made *Dunkirk* a free Port, and their Sugars pay no Duty in or out, and the *Dutch* pay a very ſmall or next to no Duty upon their Sugars imported, whereas the Duty now paid on ours is 30 *per Cent.* and in *Oliver*'s Time, when all things were raked into, to find a Revenue; no Exciſe was put upon Sugar of the growth of the *Engliſh* Plantations.

It is Objected, *That Tobacco bears a high Duty, and why may not Sugar?* To which it is Anſwered.

1. The high Duty has kept the Planters of Tobacco from flouriſhing, and brought moſt of them to a very mean condition; and whereas 50000 Hogſheads have been brought from *Virginia* formerly in a year, two whole years crop lately

lately amounted to but 40000, and many there have turned their Plantations to Provisions, and some to Flax and to Manufactures, and they live much better thereby than by planting Tobacco.

2. No other Nations vye with us in the *West Indies*, in producing Tobacco.

3. The charges of 100 Acres of Tobacco is not one tenth part of the Charges of 100 Acres of Sugar, nor one tenth part of the people employ'd therein, and it will cost 6000 *l.* to settle a Plantation for Sugar, when 2000 *l.* will settle one for Tobacco.

Upon the whole, considering the great and severe Losses the said Plantation has met with, by so many Ships taken during the late War, (insomuch as they are but just getting their Heads above Water) the great charge they have been at in sending Succours to the *Le-ward* Islands, and defending themselves, the frequent Accidents they are subject to, as Hurricanes, Mortality of Negroes, and fires in their Canes in the Fields, all which frequently happen, it is Humbly hoped, they shall not be entirely crusht, as they must be, if any farther Duty be imposed on Sugar.

The last Parliament were so sensible of this, that they let the late Duty go off in a time of War, when it was difficult to find Funds to support it, for a Sugar Plantation costing so much when once destroy'd, will never be settled again: And if the *Scotch* get any Plantations, as they will endeavour it, all our Planters will soon resort thither, and in the mean time to the *Dutch* and *French* Plantations.

REASONS,

AGAINST

Laying a further Duty
on SUGAR.

The preſent CASE of a *Barbados* Planter, and Reaſons againſt laying a further Duty on SUGAR.

ALthough there be not any one Man, that either has an Intereſt in the Iſland of *Barbados*, or a true Knowledge of the Place, but will eaſily admit it for an undoubted Truth, That the laying of further Impoſitions or Duties on Sugars will inevitably ruine the Place, and conſequently leſſen Navigation and Trade, and the Exportation and Conſumption of the Product and Manufactury of *England*; yet to our Sorrow, we find that Men of great Intereſt and Ingenuity here, are of a quite different Opinion, and believe that an additional Duty will do us no hurt.

However, to thoſe that are Strangers to the Place, I ſhall Humbly offer a few Reaſons to prove, that any further Addition of Duty on Sugar will utterly ruine that important Iſland; and if that be granted, I ſuppoſe the conſequential Detriment to the Trade, Navigation and Product of *England* will not be denied.

But *Firſt*, I muſt by way of Introduction to my Argument, beg leave to aſſert a few Preliminaries, which are certain and undoubted Truths, ready to be proved by undeniable Evidence.

1. *Barbados* (tho' it is not bigger than the Iſle of *Wight*) yet its Inhabitants, Freemen and Slaves, have been upwards of 90000, all which are wholly cloathed and ſupplied with Utenſils and Working Tools, and in a great meaſure are fed from *England*.

2. The Iſland of *Barbados* in times paſt, one year with another, did load nigh 400 Sail of Veſſels with Sugar, Cotton, Ginger, Rum, and Moloſſes, moſt of theſe Cargoes were imported into *England*, and what was not there conſumed, was Exported and Sold abroad, and brought in Money or Monies worth. Now theſe *Barbados* Commodities are not purchaſed in that Iſland with Silver, or any other Forreign Product, but altogether with the Product and Manufactory of *England*; and conſequently the Sugar-Plantations are an advantage to the Nation, even in the purchaſing of the Sugar; and whatever Sugar is imported more than what is conſumed in *England*, is a clear annual Acceſſion to the Riches of the Nation, and not a Commutation or Circulation from hand to hand.

3. The other Plantations and Colonies that lye nigh *Barbados*, moſt of which are in the Hands of Forreigners and Strangers, do produce Sugar eaſier and cheaper than *Barbados* can, and have many Advantages over us, ſuch as the Water-carriage of *Suranam*, the abundance of Ground proviſion of *Martineco*, the cutting three Crops for once planting, (and that without Dung) in almoſt all other Plantations where Sugar is produced, while *Barbados* is forced to be at the Endleſs and Expenſive Labour of Dunging and Weeding their Canes, and muſt plant as often as it reaps: Inſomuch, that really and truly, every 100 *l.* weight of common Sugar coſts the *Barbados* Planter 9 *s.* when made.

4. Such is the preſent Circumſtances of that Iſland, that altho' a Man were to have ſome of the Land of *Barbados* that lies waſt freely given him, yet ſo it is at this time, that he that makes it into a Sugar-work, and ſtocks it, ſhall not make 2 *per Cent.* for the Money he expends, in the making of it into a Sugar-Plantation. So great are the Expences of Mills, Boyling houſes, Coppers, Stills, Utenſils, Servants, Slaves, Horſes, Cattle, ſo exceeding great the Labour of making Sugar, and ſo poor is the preſent Condition of the Planters, and ſo ſmall is the profit that's made now by Sugar-planting, by reaſon of the many Sugar plantations.

5. The ſeveral Duties that are on Muſcovado Sugar, already do amount to 3 *s.* 7 *d.*

a hundred weight, and the Duties that are on clay'd Sugar amount to 11 *s.* a hundred weight, which Duties are above 30 *per Cent.* on the prime Coſts.

All the aforeſaid Aſſertions are true in Fact, and can be Demonſtrated and Proved by unqueſtionable Evidence. Thus having given a few hints at the Hardſhips *Barbados* lyes under, I come to prove,

That a further Duty laid on Sugar, *will inevitably ruine* Barbados.

This is Evident, *Firſt*, by Experience; In the Beginning of the late King *James*'s Reign, *Barbados* was in a flouriſhing Condition, and able to bring into the Field 8000 fighting Men, but an additional Duty of a Farthing a pound on Brown, and three Farthings a pound on White Sugar, being impoſed by the Parliament, the Conſequence was, That during the firſt 4 years Continuance of that Duty, altho' the Iſland enjoyed Peace, and plenty of Proviſions and Ships, and was free from Sickneſs. yet that Impoſition laid waſt (or turned to Proviſions) one third part of that Iſland, that before then was taken up in Sugar Canes, nigh one half of the Inhabitants left the place, and the ſmall Planters, and ſuch as were in Debt, not being able to get Bread by making Sugar, removed with ſome of their Slaves to the Northern Colonies, there to raiſe Corn and Cattle; others went abroad to other Places, and the Iſland was miſerably depopulated, inſomuch that before the Revolution, above 40 Sugar-works were laid waſt, and there was not above 45000 Negroes in the Iſland, nor above 4000 White Men able to bear Arms. And in that time while *Barbados* decreaſed, *Suranam* and *Martineco* encreaſed, more than they had done, in thrice that number of Years before; this was the Conſequence of that Duty of a Farthing *per l.* on Brown Sugar, and three Farthings on clay'd Sugars, and no doubt the ſame Cauſes will produce the ſame Effects.

When that Duty was laid upon Sugar, we were told it would not affect the Planter, but that the Conſumptioner would pay it, but we found that the Planter (or Maker of Sugar) paid it, and no Body elſe, for they did not riſe in Price in *England* one penny; and in the Plantations, as ſoon as ever the Duty was laid on them, they fell in their price as much as the Duty amounted to, and when it was taken off, they did not fall in *England*, which is a clear Evidence the Planter only was affected with it: The Merchant will not buy of the Planter, unleſs he be abated of the preſent price ſo much as the Duty impoſed amounts to: For, ſays he, before the Grocer will buy of me, I muſt clear him of the Duty, and therefore you the firſt Seller muſt allow me for it.

I come now from Reaſon to ſhew, That the laying any further Duty on Sugar, will ruine the Iſland of *Barbados*, and conſequently greatly endamage the Trade and Navigation of *England*.

1. The more Sugar is conſumed and uſed, the more it will be in demand, and the better it will ſell: Now the Cheaper that Sugar is, the more will be uſed and ſpent, and the leſs will be ſaved, (that's plain, Gold is more ſaved than Lead, Silk than Wool.) This holds true even in reſpect of Commodities, that are of Univerſal Uſe, and abſolute Neceſſity, ſuch as Salt: And much more it is ſo in reſpect of Commodities that are only of particular Uſe with ſome perſons, and are not of abſolute Neceſſity, and ſuch is Sugar.

When the *French* King laid his heavy Impoſition on the Salt that was to be uſed in his Countrey, he deſigned it to affect the Conſumptioner, and not the Maker: But he found it otherwiſe. And had he not Obliged by a Law every Corporation, Precinct and Town, to the Conſumption of a certain Quantity, he had ruined the Manufacturers of Salt in his own Kingdom; for the Duty did before that fall on the Makers of Salt, as this will on the Makers of Sugar, unleſs every Corporation be obliged to buy a certain quantity of Sugar: And a plain Inſtance of this was lately ſeen, when 12 *s.* additional Duty was laid on Currants, it ſo impaired the Conſumption, that half that Duty was taken off.

Secondly, The ſecond Reaſon, why a further Impoſition on Sugar will ruine *Barbados*, is, becauſe it will Unpeople that *Iſland*, and People the Northern Collonies, and the Circumjacent Sugar Plantations. Men will not ſtay in that ſcorching Climate to ſtarve, or at the moſt that can be ſaid, to make One *per Cent.* of their Money, (I

mean

mean the prime Coſt of their Land, Negroes and Stock) when it's in their power to remove to the *French*, *Dutch*, and *Deaniſh* Plantations, as to *Martineco*, *Suranam*, and St. *Thomas*'s, with their Negroes and other Moveables, and make Ten *per Cent.* for every Hundred pounds worth that they carry with them: Or ſuch as are not diſpoſed to go into Forreign Plantations, will find it their Intereſt to remove, as others have done, to *New-England*, *New-York*, and *Penſilvania*, there to produce Corn and Cattle, and ſo get Food and Raiment.

Thirdly, To preſerve the Iſland of *Barbados* from certain Ruine and Depopulation, it is abſolutely Neceſſary, that the Inhabitants of that place be put in as good a Condition as the Inhabitants of the Neighbouring Places, which are under the *French*, *Dutch*, and *Deans*: This can never be, while the *Engliſh* Planters Sugar in *England* is loaded with High Duties, and the *Dutch* and *French* Planters Sugar in *Holland* and *France* is burthened with no Duties at all, or very inconſiderable Duties. Thoſe Collonies that have the moſt Eaſe in making of a Commodity, and the moſt advantage by it when it is made, will carry away the Trade of Making and Selling that Commodity.

Therefore We Hope and Pray, that the Parliament will take our Pittiful and Calamitous Condition into their Serious Conſideration, and ſave us from utter Ruine.

That once flouriſhing Iſland of *Barbados*, (that ſo often has preſerved all the *Engliſh* Intereſt in the *Weſt-Indies*, lyes now in a Languiſhing Condition, an eaſie Prey to an Enemy, in whoſe Hands if it once ſhould fall, the Worth of it is ſo well known, that it will be kept, tho' at the Expence of the Conqueror, tho' for a Garriſon, for it is the Key and the very Entrance of the *Weſt Indies*, the Support of *Virginia*, and the Soul of the *Engliſh* Intereſt in *America*. Nothing but the Hopes of Peace, and better Times, has for ſeveral Years laſt paſt ſupported us, and if we are now diſappointed, nothing but Ruine and Deſpair will enſue.

It's hop'd, that what is ſaid will obviate all Objections, and anſwer the Arguments that are made for a further Impoſition on Sugar. The Deſign of this Paper does not allow, that the Subject ſhould be copiouſly Diſcuſſed, I ſhall however, juſt mention two or three Arguments againſt us.

Firſt, Tobacco does bear theſe Impoſitions, and conſequently Sugar may.

Anſw. It is a great Error, Tobacco has not born it without damage to that Commodity, for the Impoſitions on Tobacco have mightily leſſened the production of it, and put the *Virginians* upon the producing of Corn and raiſing of Cattle; but if it were ſo, there is no Paralel between the *Virginia* and *Barbados* Planter, we have the beſt Plantation in the World for raiſing Tobacco, and the greateſt part of the Trade of that Commodity, which comparatively to Sugar is raiſed with a ſmall Stock, whereas we have many Rivals in the Sugar-Trade, and produce Sugar at a vaſt Expence, 300 *l.* will make a Tobacco Plantation, and leſs than 6000 *l.* will not make a Sugar Plantation with one Wind mill.

Secondly, Some Men ſay, the Exporter can give as great a Price as ever, he is not burthened; but who will have the Benefit of that but the Exporter? who when he buys, will certainly buy of the Planter, as cheap as the Grocer, and he will have the Benefit of the Draw-back, and not the Planter, as was evident during the laſt Impoſition, the Exporter got Money, and the Planter was ruined

Some ſay, that Sugar once was ſold for 12 *d. per l.* and Tobacco at 3 *s. per l.* why may it not be ſo again.

Anſw. It will never be ſo again, unleſs we can either ruine our Neighbours Sugar and Tobacco Plantations, or oblige them to lay on as great Impoſitions on their Tobacco and Sugar as we do. And when Sugar and Tobacco were ſold at theſe high Rates, *England* had not the 2co part of the Advantage by theſe Commodities it now has by them, when they are Sold at our preſent low Rates.

I ſhall Conclude with the Authority of Sir *Joſiah Child*, in his Diſcourſe of Trade, printed ſeveral Years agoe, *pag.* 204. "That it is in his Majeſties Power, and the Par-"liaments, if they pleaſe, by taking off all Charges from Sugar, to make it more "entirely an *Engliſh* Commodity, than white Herrings are a *Dutch* Commodity, "and to draw more profit to this Kingdom thereby, than the *Dutch* do by that. "And that in Conſequence thereof, all Plantations of other Nations, muſt in few "Years ſink to little or nothing.

REASONS

Againſt

Impoſition on Sugar.

816 m. 13.
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REASONS

Humbly Offer'd, why a Duty ſhould not be laid on Sugars.

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IN laying Taxes upon Trade, 'tis true that the heavieſt Part of the Duties ought to lie upon Goods Imported, becauſe the Conſumption being within Our ſelves, the Conſumer is ſuppoſed to pay the Duty: but Sugars Imported from Our own Colonies have ſeveral juſt Exceptions from this Rule, which quite alter the Caſe.

I. *The Plantations are a Part of Our ſelves*, tho' they are plac'd Remote; the Goods they tranſmit hither ought to be eſteem'd Our own Manufacture and Growth, and to be uſed accordingly.

The Miſtake in this particular Point has been a great Occaſion of Our Burthening the Plantations in *America*; by which they have been diſcouraged, and their Neighbour-Colonies encreaſed.

To ſpeak of Our Sugar-Colonies in particular.

The Product of them (except what is ſpent in Our own Colonies) *is wholly tranſmitted to* England. *Here is their Market*; here their *Profits are made*; *and here they*, who get Eſtates there, *retire to live and ſpend them: Here they buy all their Neceſſaries*; ſo much as the Cloths they wear, and great part of the Food they eat: There is no One Argument which can be uſed to denominate the Iſle of *Wight* to be part of *England*, but what holds good for theſe Colonies, the Diſtance of Place excepted; and that's an Article which makes it ſtill more Beneficial to us; for it is much more to our Advantage that thoſe Iſlands ſtand as they do, than if they lay in the Channel as the *Wight* does. The Employment of Seamen and Shipping, *and the great Price they give for Our Manufactures*, is a Demonſtration beyond the Power of Argument to prove it.

If Sugar, Cotton, and Ginger, were the Product of the Iſle of *Wight*, 'tis preſum'd we ſhould count them Our own Growth, and be very tender of them; 'tis plain they are as much Our own now, and to much more Advantage, and ought therefore as much to be valued and protected.

The Planters are *Engliſhmen* of our own People, they neither Buy nor Sell with any but our ſelves, *they Conſume Ten times more of our own Product and Manufactures, than the like Number of any of our*

our own People in England, *and pay Three times the Price for it*; they make the return of all their Induſtry and Labour to us; this is the Center of their Wealth, *the Place where they lay it up, and where their Poſterity ſpend it*; therefore to Burthen them, is to Ruin the moſt Profitable and moſt Induſtrious part of our own Body.

But 'tis Objected, *That though this be true, it does not appear that laying a Duty on their Goods here, can be a Burthen or Ruin to their Trade, it being rais'd here not there, and paid by the Importer, and to him again by the Retailer, and at laſt by the Conſumer, in the Prices of the Goods; all Taxes in general being ſuppoſed to be paid by the laſt Buyer.*

This were a good Argument, if ſad Experience had not made it appear to be a miſtake; and to convince thoſe who are of another Opinion, 'twill be neceſſary a little to examine the Hiſtory of the Trade, and of the laſt Duty impoſed upon it.

Our Sugar Trade, in general, is but a young Manufacture, and dates its Original within the Memory of ſome Perſons now living, and is, perhaps, the greateſt improv'd Trade, and the moſt Profitable to *England*, that is, or ever was in the World. The firſt cauſe of its riſe was from the Indiſcretion of the *Portugueſe*, who preſuming upon their being Maſters of the Sugar-Trade in the *Braſills*, laid a heavy Tax on their own Sugar, which encourag'd our Iſland of *Barbadoes*, to whom firſt the way of making of Sugar was diſcover'd, to run into the Trade; and it has been in vain that the *Portugueſe* ſaw their Error, and have ſince endeavour'd to retrieve it. This is ſo direct an Example, 'tis needleſs to argue it. And whoever knows the Sugar-Trade, cannot be ignorant, that it is not impoſſible to be loſt by the ſame Error by which it was gain'd.

In the Reign of the late King *James* an additional Duty was laid upon Sugar, notwithſtanding all the Remonſtrances of the Traders and Planters to the contrary; and yet even then nothing but the pretence that the Duty wou'd not affect the Planters but lye on the Conſumer, with a Promiſe of His Majeſty to remit it if it prov'd otherwiſe, could make it ſeem tolerable.

But when time demonſtrated the ſad effect it had on the Planter, and they applied for Relief, they were anſwer'd, *'Twas an Unmannerly thing to put His Majeſty in mind of His Promiſe.*

'Tis true, if Sugar was Planted and Cur'd in *England*, the Duty might lye on the Conſumer, as in other Caſes it does; but here the Caſe differs exceedingly.

The Planter is the Seller at our Market, the Merchant here is but the Factor; when the Planter Ships his Sugars for *England* he conſigns them to his Factor to be Sold for him, and generally draws Bills upon his Factor for as much as he ſuppoſes the Produce to be, and ſometimes more.

Upon laying the Duty abovementioned, the Experiment was made; the Factor had two ways to manage the Sugars and Bills, and no more.

1. To

1. To Accept the Bills abſolutely. Or,
2. Conditionally.

If he accepted the Bills abſolutely, he would then ſell the Goods at the Market-price, let it be what it would, to enable him to comply with the Payment; and if the Produce did not make it good, the Planter remain'd Debtor to the Ballance, ſo the Loſs return'd upon him.

If he accepted the Bills conditionally, that is, to pay when the Goods are ſold: If the Goods did not ſell in time, the Bills went back proteſted, or elſe were Noted, and lay here at Intereſt and Charges. By both which the Planter was a conſiderable Loſer both in Money and Reputation.

The Buyers here knowing too well theſe Methods of their Trade, and that of Neceſſity the Factor muſt ſell for the Reaſons aforeſaid, refuſed to advance in Price notwithſtanding the Duty, and withheld buying by a General Conſent, and the Conſequence ſoon anſwer'd their Expectation, for *the Factors were forced to ſell at the old Price to ſupport the Credit both of themſelves and their Principals.*

But ſome of the moſt Conſiderable Factors being willing to try all poſſible Ways for their Employers, ſhipp'd off great Quantities for *Holland*, *Hambourgh*, and other Parts, but thoſe Markets being not able to take off the Quantities, and the Bills ſtill following the Goods, to enable the Exporter to pay the Planters Bills, as above, the very ſame thing follow'd Abroad, the Goods were forced to be ſold to raiſe the Money, and the Loſs fell ſtill upon the poor Planter.

Thus, whoever pays the Money, the Planter bears the Loſs, and is left in Debt, and conſequently Undone; for 'tis quite another thing to be in Debt in the *Weſt Indies* than 'tis in *England*.

That the Planter is not able to bear the Duty, at leaſt, at this time, is the next thing to be proved, and that is as plain as the other. The War which has laſted now nine Years, has been a General Prejudice to all Trade, but to the *Weſt-India* Trade in particular: And in the *Weſt Indies*, the Iſlands of *Barbadoes* and *Jamaica* have been as it were deſtin'd to be Ruin'd, having beſides the War had a Complication of Diſaſters, *as the dreadful Earthquake, and the Inſurrection of the Negroes at* Jamaica, *the Loſs of Three or Four entire Fleets from* Barbadoes, by Diſaſter of Weather and Hurricanes, together with *a Diſtemper brought amongſt them by the Men of War*, little better than the Plague, which ſwept away great Numbers of their Inhabitants.

Alſo they have raiſed Forces, and fitted out Ships at their own Charge for ſeveral Expeditions; and in ſhort, beſides their Loſſes at Sea by the *French*, with the Ruin of great part of *Jamaica*, and St. *Chriſtophers*, by their Deſcents, have raiſed larger Taxes on their Eſtates than has been paid by us at home; *by which Means there is not half the Sugar planted in the* Weſt-Indies *that was before the War.*

After all this, now Peace is obtain'd and Trade revives, to lay a Tax upon Sugar would be the ſame thing to them as a Continuance of the War, and the whole Iſlands muſt fall under a viſible Decay by it. *Which ought to be eſteem'd as a Decay of our own Strength and Trade, becauſe it will of conſequence leſſen the Conſumption of our Manufactures, and abate the Number of our Seamen and Shipping, which are the Wealth and Strength of the Nation.*

There are many other Arguments to prove the nature of the Trade or Art of Planting cannot bear it; as, The Soil requiring more Charge to Manure and Plant it, than formerly it did; Sugars bearing a leſs Price than at firſt; the multitude of Caſualties and Miſcarriages the Plantations and Management of Sugar are conſtantly ſubject to, more than any other Manufacture or Plantation in the world; with the more than uſual difficulty and length of time requir'd to recover thoſe Miſcarriages; with the ſeveral high Duties and Taxes raiſed in the Country, beſides what they pay already in *England*, which together is not leſs than 30 *per Cent.* on the real Value of their Sugars; *with an Impoſſibility of raiſing the Price, the Markets being abſolutely governed by the Quantities, not the Coſt of the Sugars, which returns all Taxes on the Planter.*

Nor are they reliev'd by the Exportation here, tho' the Duty be drawn back; for all Exportations from hence, excepting what are occaſion'd by a Demand from abroad, always returns a Loſs, Foreigners being too well acquainted with the reaſon of ſuch forced Exportations; of which we had plain Examples in the time of the Duties before-mentioned.

We dare not ſay what effect this may have upon men who are put under deſperate Circumſtances, as theſe muſt be, the Conſequence being the compleat Ruin of the Trade. *For if the poorer Planters, who are by far more numerous than the Rich, are ruined, and the Rich come to live on their Eſtates, and abate planting Sugar,* which they do for gain, and will do no longer than they gain by it, *the Negroes will be ſold off to other Nations*, the Strength and Trade will decline, the Inhabitants will decreaſe, they will Plant for Proviſions, and muſt be defended by a Gariſon, *or they will be taken by the firſt* European *Nation we quarrel with.*

There being ſuch a Chain of fatal Conſequences attending *England*, as well as the Iſlands and Planters, it's hop'd, That the Sum propoſed to be rais'd on Sugars, may be levied on Wines, Brandies, *&c.*; which will raiſe it more effectually, and with much leſs Prejudice to *England* in general, thoſe Commodities being purchas'd chiefly with our Ready Money, and the leſs of them we conſume, the Richer we are: Whereas Sugar is our own Produce, raiſed by the Expence of our own Manufactures, and the Induſtry of our own People, and we are not the poorer for the Conſumption.

Some CONSIDERATIONS *about the intended Doubling the Old Subſidy, Humbly Offered with reſpect to* SUGAR.

IN the Book of Rates, made *Anno* 1660. all Commodities were generally rated at 5 *per* Ct. as near as could be to their then Value, and accordingly white Sugar from our Plantations being then worth 5 l. *per* Ct. wt. paid Subſidy 5 s. *per* Ct. and Brown and Muſcovado Sugar 1 s. 6 d. *per* Ct. but ſince that time white Sugar has fallen to between 40 and 50 s. *per* Ct. and Muſcovado to about 20 s. *per* Ct. which makes the ſaid Subſidy to be 10 *per* Ct. on the Value, inſtead of 5 *per* Ct. as was at firſt intended, and of this the half is paid back upon Exportation, as is upon all other Commodities imported.

In the firſt Year of the late King *James*, an Additional Duty was laid upon Sugar,

Viz. 7 s. *per* Ct. wt. on white Sugar, and Sugars fit for uſe.
2 s. 4 d. *per* Ct. wt. on Muſcovado Sugar.

Which was all allowed to be drawn back on Exportation; and if it had been otherwiſe, there would have been no Encouragement to ſend out our Sugars to Forreign Markets, which commonly take off half the Quantity we import. But tho' the ſaid Duty was drawn back on Exportation, yet that Impoſition ruin'd many particular Plantations, and if continued, would in all probability have deſtroy'd the whole, or the greateſt part; for the Prevention whereof, the Wiſdom of Parliament thought fit to diſcontinue the ſaid Duty, it being found by Experience that the ſame fell upon the Planter.

Now the Old Subſidy doubled, will make the Duty on white Sugar to be 10 s. *per* Ct. wt. and on Muſcovado, or unpurged Sugar 3 s. *per* Ct. wt. which will be heavier than it can bear; but if the New Additional Duty be not paid back on Exportation, it will looſe to us that beneficial Part of our Trade in Exporting to Forreign Markets, and not only by conſequence prove ruinous to our Plantations, (which when once deſtroy'd are not to be retriev'd again) but it will leſſen our Navigation, and the Conſumption of Apparel, Proviſion, and other Neceſſaries, which are continually ſent from *England* for their Supply.

And altho' it is the Intereſt of *England* to draw back all this intended New Duty on all ſorts of Goods, and the Revenue ariſing thereby will not be leſſened, yet it is more immediately and abſolutely neceſſary to do it on Sugar, than even on Tobacco or any other Commodity, becauſe there is no one *Weſt-India* Commodity wherein other Nations vye with us ſo much as in Sugar, the Exportation whereof from hence yearly amounts to a great Value, and is very conſiderable in the Ballance of our Trade.

The ſevere Loſſes befallen the Plantations and their Ships this War may plead for their Relief, and if Sugar has at any time born a high price, it has been when the greateſt part of their Ships have been taken by the *French*; but when they arrive ſafe, as ſome have of late, the Price ſoon lowers, and Sugars now produce no more than the Freight, Cuſtom, Inſurance, and other Charges.

It might be added, That the Diſproportion between the Duty on our Plantations, and that on other Forreign Sugars, is not large enough to give a ſufficient Encouragement to our own Plantations, which is worthy of Conſideration.

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REASONS Humbly Offered againſt laying a farther Impoſition *upon* SUGAR.

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I. THE Burthen of this Impoſition will lie wholly upon the People of the *Plantations*. For when the Importer hath paid the Duty, he will not be able, on that account, to advance his Price in the leaſt. Thus it was found, that when the firſt Duty upon *Sugar* was granted to King *Charles*, which ſtill continues, it made no alteration in the Price. And when the Additional Duty was granted to King *James*, it ſtill continued the ſame. In King *James*'s Act it was provided, *that the Buyer ſhould pay that Duty*: But the Seller was forc'd to pay it, or he muſt keep his Sugar; for no Man would buy, unleſs the Duty were firſt clear'd. It appears therefore plainly, that the People of the *Plantations*, who are the Importers and Makers of the *Sugar*, muſt bear the whole burthen that is laid upon it,

II. The Duty that hath been propos'd, will be a very heavy burthen. For a Farthing *per* Pound upon *Muſcovado Sugar*, is two Shillings four Pence the Hundred: and the ordinary clear Profit of this Hundred being about ſix Shillings, the Two and Four-pence is about a third part of the clear Profit. which clear Profit is the *Planters* Livelyhood.

III. The People of the *Plantations* are not able to bear this Burthen: they paying already Eighteen-pence a Hundred here in *England*, and the full value of Sixpence upon the place. The like Impoſition being laid upon them by King *James* for eight Years, hath brought them (who before were in a flouriſhing Condition) to the very brink of Ruin. And if it ſhould now be renewed, it would utterly deſtroy them. In the Iſland of *Barbadoes* above forty Sugar-works are deſerted: thouſands of Acres lie waſte: Not one Man in twenty can keep his Buildings in repair: and the whole Iſland is a ſpectacle of Poverty and Miſery.

IV. Whereas it hath been ſaid, that ſince the Kingdom is engaged in a War, the *Plantations* ſhould bear a ſhare in the Charge of it; It is humbly anſwer'd, that they do bear their full Share. In *Barbadoes* every twenty Acres finds a Footman to the *Militia*, and every fourſcore a Horſeman: the making and repairing of their Forts and Breaſt-works is very chargeable, and they are upon perpetual Duty in Guarding them: Every Alarm cauſes a great Expence: and they have at their own Coſts ſet out ſeveral Ships of war. In ſhort, they upon all occaſions have ſtrain'd themſelves to the utmoſt, for Their Majeſties Service, and for the Engliſh Intereſt: particularly in the Expeditions of S. *Chriſtophers*, *Guadalupe*, and *Martinico*: That of *Martinico* alone coſt the Iſland of *Barbadoes* above thirty thouſand pound: and they have not ninety thouſand Acres that can pay Taxes. So that this one thing comes to about ſeven ſhillings in the pound, reckoning their Land at twenty ſhillings an Acre. Alſo they have ſuſtained grievous Loſſes at Sea: and by reaſon of the fewneſs of Ships that are permitted to go to them, they want many Neceſſaries, and their Sugars lie waſting and periſhing upon their hands. Or at beſt they pay exceſſive prices for what they buy; and muſt give treble the uſual Fraight, perhaps four or five fold, for what they ſend off. So that they are in no condition to receive more burdens.

V. The Additional Duties were laid upon *Sugars* by the late King, at the Inſtigation of the *Sugar-Bakers*: who had gain'd ſome Perſons of great Credit with him. And nothing would content him but that Tax. But the Commons were not willing to paſs the Bill, till he had promiſed them by the Chancellor of his Exchequer; that if the Duties were found grievous to the *Plantations*, they ſhould not be collected. They were ſoon found very grievous, and he was well inform'd of it, but it was Collected notwithſtanding.

VI. The *Sugar-Bakers* were deſirous to get a Monopoly of improved *Sugars*: and to ſhut out others, not by downright Prohibitions, but by High Duties, which are the ſame thing in Effect. And therefore they contrived, that all *Sugars* fit for Uſe (for that was their word) that came from the Plantations, ſhould pay a treble Duty, tho they ſeldom reach double the price. By which means they might reaſonably expect, that no ſuch *Sugars* would come from the Plantations. And then they might ſell at what rates they pleaſed

It is humbly hoped that the Honorable Houſe of Commons, *will never prefer the Intereſt of a few* Sugar-Bakers *before that of the* Plantations. *which Employ ſo many hundred Ships, and ſo many thouſand Families here in* England: *and which, by the moſt moderate Computation, are worth to this Kingdom (by getting and ſaving) above a Million yearly. They are as good as Mines of Silver, yearly yielding a Million.*

Against a Seaman duly upon record

THE

CASE

OF

The Duty on Molosses.

2°. *W.* & *M.*

ACT for Granting certain Impositions upon *East-India* Goods, and other Goods, &c.

Molosses 8 *s. per* C.

For every hundred weight of Molosses imported within the time aforesaid, from any other place than the English **Plantations in** America, 8 s. **over and above what the same is charged with in the Book of Rates.**

4°. & 5°. *W.* & *M.*

ACT for Granting certain Additional Impositions upon several Goods and Merchandizes.

fol. 252. **There shall be answered and paid for the several Goods and Merchandizes hereafter mentioned, over and above all Impositions, Duties and Charges already imposed and payable upon and for the same in the Book of Rates of Merchandize by Act of Parliament established, and the direction therein contained or otherwise, the further Rates and Duties following, That is to say ——**

fol. 264. **Upon all** French **Goods and Merchandizes (except Wine, Brandy, Salt and Vinegar) five and twenty pounds for every hundred pounds value thereof, more than the same are charged with in the said Book of Rates.**

25 *per* C.

4°. & 5°. *W.* & *M.*

ACT for Continuing the Acts Prohibiting Trade with *France*, and Encouragement of Privateers.

fol. 498. **And be it further Enacted, That out of the proceed of such Sale, the Subsidy of Tunnage and Poundage, and all other Duties and Impositions payable to their Majesties for such Goods, Merchandizes and things, shall be deducted and answered to their Majesties, and the Neat proceed divided,** &c.

Upon some Doubts from the aforesaid Acts, Molosses imported from *France* have been admitted to pay but 25 *per Cent.* of the Value; and that not of their true Value, as other Goods are valued upon Oath, but upon the Valuation in the Book of Rates, in time of Peace, when they were much less worth, and so they pay only about 3 *s. per* C. wt. besides 8 *d. per* C. wt. by the Book of Rates, to the great Prejudice of our own Plantations.

THE

CASE

OF THE

Duty on Moloſſes

From *FRANCE.*

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

THE CASE OF The Refiners of Sugar in England, Stated.

THE Refining of Sugar in *England* is an antient Manufacture, and according to the Incouragement it hath received from time to time, hath Grown up from Eight *Refining-Houses*, to near Thirty within this Twenty Years; and this chiefly by the increase of *Brown Sugar* from our own Plantations.

The Quantity of Plantation-Brown-Sugars used by the Refiners in *England*, may be modestly computed at 5000 Tuns *annually*; Which adds considerably to his Majesties Revenue, and much Augments the *English* Navigation; besides the vast Expences that do unavoidably attend this chargeable Manufacture to the Kingdoms Advantage; and many Arts and Trades have likewise their sole Dependance thereon.

To discourage this Mannfacture, will be Prejudicial to the Plantations in that their *Brown-Sugars*, which is the chief of their Produce, not being spent by the *Refiner*, nor this Kingdom being able to spend them in kind, the Planter will not onely Lie at the mercy of the *Forreigner* as to a Market, but the Manufacture it self will be necessarily forced Abroad, there being a Reciprocal Affinity between the welfare of our Sugar-Plantations in *America*, and the Refining works in *England*.

There is no way to Secure so considerable a Manufacture within this Kingdom, as by a due Proportioning of the several Rates of Sugar. Which humbly therefore we here offer, with the Reasons thereof Annexed.

From the English Plantations.

Muscovadoes, commonly called Unpurged Sugar, at a Farthing *per pound*.

If this Commodity were yet Rated at a lower Proportion to the following Rates, it would undoubtedly the more encrease this Manufacture in this Kingdom, advance our Navigation, secure the Trade of our *English* Merchants to the Plantations, and indeed secure the Intereſt of Nineteen in Twenty of all the *English-Planters*; although it cannot be expected, but that a few *Barbadoes* White-Sugar-makers will be still unsatisfied.

Anno 1669. *Imported Brown Sugars* 8338. *Tuns. White Sugar* 118. *Tuns.*

Sun-dried and Clayed Sugars, under the degree of White, at one Half-penny per pound.

Wherein are comprehended Sugars at this time worth from Thirty Five, to Fifty Shillings *per Cent.* whereas the Brown-Sugars to be Manufactured by the *Refiners* in *England* are worth but 23 *s. per Hundred.* Which Duty will considerably advance his Majesties *Revenue*; And it is but equal They be so *Rated*, in regard of their Value, and that they are Imported fit for the *Scale*, and scarce ever Exported.

White Sugars, one Penny per Pound.

From our Experience, we Assert, That three Pounds of Brown-Sugar as commonly Imported, will not produce one Pound of *Refined* Sugars: And in *Barbadoes* it self, the usual Barter being three Pounds of Brown-Sugars, for one Pound of White; often more.

More then double the number of Ships are required, to Import Sugars Brown, then if Clay'd and White.

Now considering, the Brown-Sugars are Manufactured in *England*, and many hundred Tuns of *Syrups* annually Exported, paying more than Five *per Cent* Custome unto the King upon Exportation by the Manufacturers thereof: And also several Duties, Taxes, and Excise are by them paid; it is evident his Majesty receives more by Brown-Sugars at a Farthing, then by White at a Penny *per Pound*: Besides, the Importation of Brown-Sugars doth Vastly more increase our Navigation, than if it should be made White in our Plantations, and Imported afterwards,

Brazile, and all Forreign Whites, at Three-Half-Pence per Pound

Which will be some Curb to the *Brazile* Planters: But as to the English-man, who is a *Portugal* Merchant, he is still Capacitated to Export our Manufacture, and to make his Returns in this, and other Commodities, as he hath been accustomed to do.

Besides, The Importation of *White-Sugar* is not so Essential to their *Portugal* Trade; For, if the Export of Commodities be so Vast as they assert, their Returns of Sugar are but a small part of their Trade. By the Entry at the *Custome-House* in the Year 1669, which is the greatest Import lately known, there appears but Seven Hundred and Five Tuns of *White-Sugar* Imported, and at their own Price of 56 *s. per Cent*, amounts to Thirty Nine Thousand Four Hundred and Eighty Pounds; which comes vastly short of what they carry out; for so many Ships as they affirm, are Employed to carry out *England* Manufactures in so great Quantities, cannot amount to less than between three and Four Hundred Thousand Pounds *annually*. So that their Sugar-Returns are not above a Tenth part of their Trade; Besides, as to the Manufacture of Refining in *England*; Two Sugar-Houses do work more by several Thousand Pounds Sterling *annually*, than the value of what they Import in Sugars; Which shews our Refining here is not so Inconsiderable as they Represent it. But indeed, should the present Duty in *Portugal* of the 25 *per Cent* be taken off, (as some expect) Sugars may then be Imported to the utter Ruine both of the *English* Plantations Abroad, and of the Manufactures of Sugars within this Kingdom.

The CASE between the *English-Sugar-Plantations*, and the *Refiners*, by some of the *Planters* Stated: *And by the Refiners Answered.*

The Planters Affirm. I. TWo thirds of the Planters of the *Sugar Collonies* do turn into *Whites*, or *Sun-dri'ds*, all their Sugars they send to *England* for their own Accompts, to buy themselves Horses, Cloaths, Tooles, Provisions, Negroes, and other Necessaries; by which alone they are enabled to subsist.

The Refiners Answer. **It appears by the Custome-House Books, Anno 1669. there was Entered** 8338 **Tuns of** Muscovado **Sugar, and but** 118 **Tuns of white, which is but a** 70th **part, whence it is evident their Assertion is either a vast mistake, or a very great abuse to the Kings Majesties Revenue, whereupon it doth also appear necessary, to make three Rates of Sugar, or else the same Abuse to his Majesties Revenue will still continue.**

The Planters Affirm. *Secondly*, The other Third, who by reason of their *Debts*, or want of *Stock*, are not able to do this; do not bring both ends together; many are broken, and others have laid down their Trade.

The Refiners Answer. **In the middle of the Planters paper they assert, that the poorer sort of** English **Planters are the strength of the Collonies,** We answer, **tis undoubtedly true. Therefore they ought to have all possible Encouragement in their making of** Muscovado Sugar; **And nothing can more contribute to their Ruin, than to Impose as much upon** Muscovado Sugars **that are worth but** 23. per cent. **as upon Sun-dri'd, and clay'd Sugars worth from** 35. s. **to** 50. s. per cent.

The Poor Brown Sugar Planters, they are confes'd to be the strength of the Colonies, therefore to assert them but one third part of the Colonies, is an evident contradiction. *Thirdly*, Two pound of Brown Sugar will make one pound of good White; as by experience is found: If white Sugars from the *Plantations* be Taxed one penny, and Brown one Farthing, then is the Refiner able to supply the Market with white Sugar, at a half-penny a pound less Imposition than the Planter, which will beat him out of the white Sugar Trade, and undoe him; and his Majesty will come to have no more for this Duty, than if there were but a half-penny the pound first set upon the white Sugar of the *Plantations*: So that the Question here will be, not whether his Majesties Revenue shall be increased, by setting a penny *per* pound upon the white Sugars of the *Plantations*, (for it is plainly shewed it will not,) but whether a few Refiners shall by Ingrosing that Trade be Enriched, and the *Plantations* undone? There being not above Twelve *Refining-Houses* in all *England*, and yet those enough to melt down all the *Brown Sugars* that come from the *Plantations*.

The Refiners Answer. **As brown Sugars are Imported from the** Barbadoes, **Three pounds of** Muscovados **will not make one pound of** Refin'd Sugar, **(as may be attested upon Oath by unconcern'd Persons) as also considering many Duties paid by the Home Manufacturer, (as is above asserted) his Majesties Receives above a penny a pound upon all** Refin'd Sugars **made in** England: **But whatever less than a penny, is laid upon** White Sugars **Imported, is a proportionable Discouragement to the Manufacture here, and Loss to his Majesties Revenue. And whereas they assert, there is but Twelve** Refining-Houses **in all** England, **there is above double the number. And no** English-man **is abridg'd the setting up of more** Sugar-works.

The Planters Affirm. *Fourthly*, The *English* Planters being beaten Out of the White Sugar Trade, a few Refiners will engrose it, and being the only Buyers of *Brown Sugar*, well set what rate they please upon them, which will be the utter undoing, & loss of the *Sugar Colonies*, not one third of the Planters reaping any profit over and above the charge from their Plantations already; and then the Refiners Trade will be at an end also.

The Refiners Answer. **Refining in** England, **and Planting in** America, **do reciprocally advance each other, and it is utterly Impossible, that ever the** English Refiners **can Ingross the** Brown Sugar, **and thereby set what Rate they please upon them (as they assert) There being** 60. **Sugars-houses at** Amsterdam, **and** 40. **at** Hamborough; **besides several others in** Holland, Zeland, **and** Flanders, **Who at present buy at least one third of the** Brown Sugars **Imported, and will have them above twelve** per cent. **cheaper, the (Excise considered) than the** English **Refiner can.**

IN CONCLUSION, *By how much the Manufactury of White and Clay'd Sugars, shall be more Encourag'd in* America, *than in* England, *by so much the more the poor Brown-Sugar Planters there will be Discourag'd*, Englands *Navagation Decreas'd, his Majesties Revenue Impair'd, Our home Manufacture lessned, and consequently Our Lands in* England *Under-valued.*

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THE CASE OF
The Refiners of Sugar in England, Stated.

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The Planters Affirm. *First*, TWo thirds of the Planters of the *Sugar Collonies* do turn into *Whites*, or *Sun-dri'ds*, all their Sugars they send to *England*, for their own Accompts, to Buy themselves Horses, Cloaths, Tooles, Provisions, Negroes, and other Necessaries; by which alone they are enabled to Subsist.

The Refiners Answer. **It appears by the Custome-House Books,** Anno 1669. **there was Entered** 8338 **Tuns of** Muscovado **Sugar, and but** 118 **Tuns of White, which is but a** 70th. **part; whence it is evident their Assertion is either a vast mistake, or a very great Abuse to the Kings Majesties Revenue; whereupon it doth also appear necessary, to make three Rates of Sugar, or else the same Abuse to his Majesties Revenue will still continue.**

The Planters Affirm. *Secondly*, The other Third, who by reason of their *Debts*, or want of *Stock*, are not able to do this; do not bring both ends together; many are broken, and others have laid down their Trade.

The Refiners Answer. **In the middle of the Planters Paper they assert, that the poorer sort of** English **Planters are the strength of the Collonies.** We answer, **tis undoubtedly true. Therefore they ought to have all possible Encouragement in their making of** Muscovado Sugar; **And nothing can more contribute to their Ruine, than to Impose as much upon** Muscovado Sugars **that are worth but** 23. per cent. **as upon Sun-dri'd, and Clay'd Sugars worth from** 35 s. **to** 50 s. per cent.

The Poor Bown Sugar Planters, they are confes'd to be the strength of the Colonies, therefore to assert them but one third part of the Colonies, is an evident contradiction.

Thirdly, Two pound of Brown Sugar will make one pound of good White; as by experience is found: If white Sugars from the *Plantations* be Taxed one penny, and Brown one Farthing, then is the Refiner able to supply the Market with white Sugar, at a half-penny a pound less Imposition than the Planter, which will beat him out of the white Sugar Trade, and undoe him; and his Majesty will come to have no more for this Duty, than if there were but a half-penny the pound first set upon the white Sugar of the *Plantations*: So that the Question here will be, not whether his Majesties Revenue shall be increased, by setting a penny *per* pound upon the white Sugars of the *Plantations*, (for it is plainly shewed it will not) but whether a few Refiners shall by Ingrossing that Trade be Enriched, and the *Plantations* undone? There being not above 12 *Refining-Houses* in all *England*, and yet those enough to melt down all the *Brown Sugars* that come from the *Plantations*.

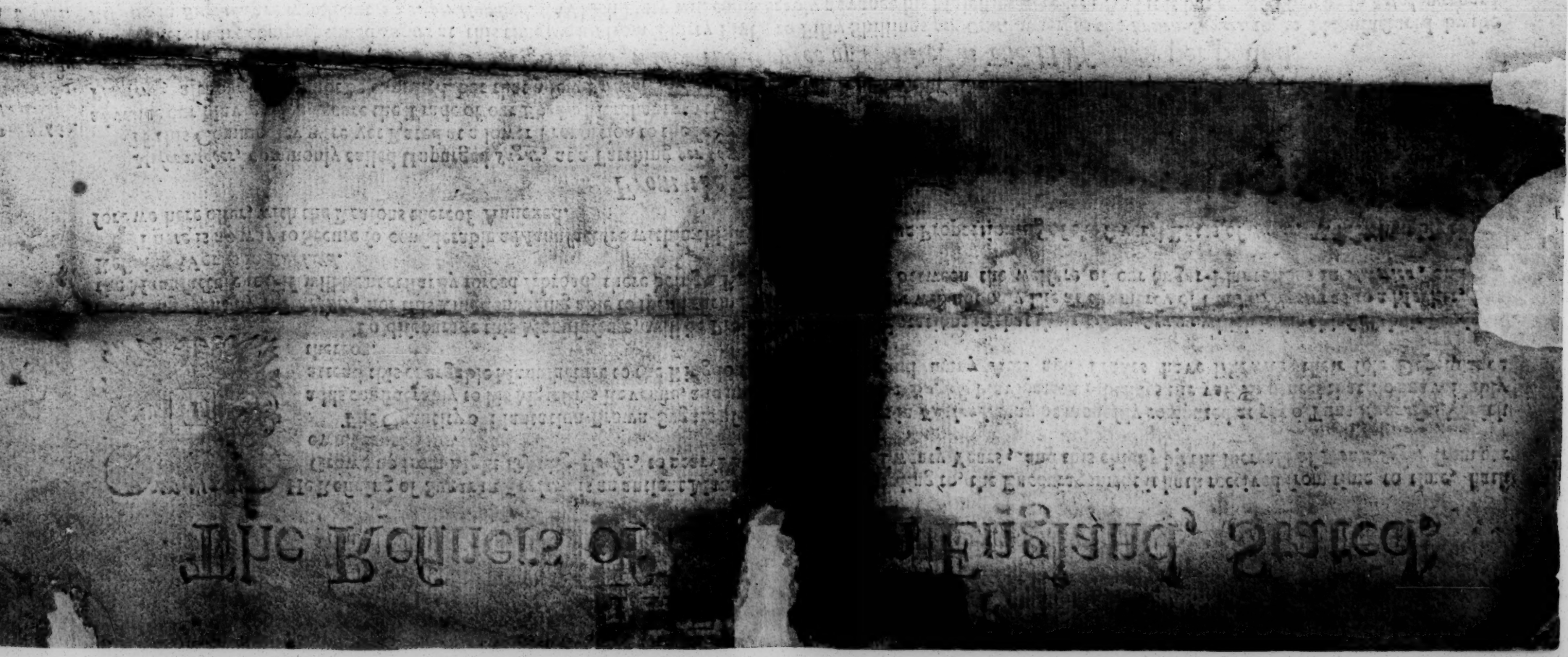
The Planters Affirm.

The Refiners Answer. **As Brown Sugars are Imported from the** Barbadoes, **Three pounds of** Muscovados **will not make one pound of** Refin'd Sugar, **(as may be attested upon Oath by unconcern'd Persons) as also considering many Duties paid by the Home Manufacturer (as is above asserted) his Majesty Receives above a penny a pound upon all** Refin'd Sugars **made in** England: **But whatever less than a penny, is laid upon** White Sugars **Imported, is a proportionable discouragement to the Manufacture here, and Loss to his Majesties Revenue. And whereas they assert, there is but Twelve** Refining-Houses **in all** England, **there is above double the number. And no** English-man **is abridg'd the setting up of more** Sugar-works.

The Planters Affirm. *Fourthly*, The *English* Planters being beaten Out of the White Sugar Trade, a few Refiners will engrose it, and being the only Buyers of *Brown Sugar*, well set what rate they please upon them, which will be the utter undoing, and loss of the *Sugar Colonies*, not one third of the Planters reaping any profit over and above the charge from their *Plantations* already; and then the Refiners Trade will be at an end also.

The Refiners Answer. **Refining in** England, **and Planting in** America, **do reciprocally advance each other, and it is utterly Impossible, that ever the** English Refiners **can Ingross the** Brown Sugar, **and thereby set what Rate they please upon them (as they assert) There being** 60 **Sugar-houses at** Amsterdam, **and** 40 **at** Hamborough; **besides several others in** Holland, Zealand, **and** Flanders, **who at present buy at least one third of the** Brown Sugars **Imported, and will have them above twelve** per cent. **cheaper, the (Excise considered) than the** English **Refiner can.**

IN CONCLUSION, *By how much the Manufactury of White and Clay'd Sugars, shall be more Encourag'd in* America, *than in* England, *by so much the more the poor Brown-Sugar Planters there will be Discourag'd,* Englands *Navagation Decreas'd, his Majesties Revenue Impair'd, our Home Manufacture lessened, and consequently Our Lands in* England *Under-valued.*



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THE CASE OF The Refiners of Sugar in ENGLAND.

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The Fact.

FOrmerly we Exported great quantities of White Sugar made in *England* to *Turkey*, *Italy*, *Spain*, and the *Eaſt-Countrey*, which Trade for about Ten Years paſt has been taken away by *Hambro*, *Holland*, and other Forreigners, by means of the Diſcouragement which the ſaid Trade lyes under in *England*.

Duties on Sugars { White Sugars pays inwards — 5 *s. per* C. weight. / Brown or Muſcovado Sugar — 1 *s.* 6 *d. per* C. weight.

On Exportation the ſaid Sugars draw back half the Duty, *viz.*

White Sugars ———— 2 *s.* 6 *d. per* C. wt.

Brown or Muſcovado Sugars ——— 9 *d. per* C. wt.

White Sugars made in *England* pays Outwards ——— 6 *d. per* C. wt.

Note. 3 C. wt. of Muſcovado Sugar when refined, makes 1 C. wt. of White.

Diſcouragements.

The Diſcouragements which the ſaid Trade of Refining Sugar in England *lyes under, are theſe,* viz.

1. The *Engliſh* Refiners paying 1 *s.* 6 *d. per* C. wt. inwards on Muſcovado Sugar, is 4 *s.* 6 *d. per* C. wt. of White, and 6 *d. per* C. wt. more on Exportation is 5 *s. per* C. wt. Whereas half the Duty being drawn back on Exportation, the Forreigners pay but 9 *d. per* C. wt. on Muſcovado Sugar, which is 2 *s.* 3. *d.* for 1 C. wt. of White Sugar; ſo that the *Engliſh* Refiners White Sugar ſtands them in 2 *s.* 9. *d. per* C. wt. more than the Forreigners.

2. There is a high Duty of 18 *l. per* Ton on Spirits drawn from Moloſſes, which is a Diſcouragement to the Sale of Moloſſes.

Remedies.

Remedies humbly Propoſed to ſet the Engliſh *Refiners on an equal foot with others.*

1. That they may draw back 2 *s.* 6 *d. per* C. wt. on the Exportation of White Sugars made in *England*, as there is on thoſe that come from the Plantations.

2. That 5 *s. per* C. wt. Duty may be laid on Moloſſes imported from the *Weſt-Indies*, which will be a great Help to our Moloſſes, and not hurt the Plantations. *Note*, The *Dutch* prohibit the Importation of Forreign Moloſſes.

3. That the Houſe will pleaſe to conſider, whether 1 *s.* 6 *d. per* C. ſhould be added to the Duty on Clay'd Sugars under the Degree of White, and then the Duties will be thus, *viz.*

White Sugars ———— 5 *s.*

Clay'd Sugars under the degree of White 3 *s.*

Muſcovado Sugar ———— 1 *s.* 6 *d.*

} *per* C. wt.

THE

Sugar Refiners

CASE.

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AN

ANSWER

TO THE

Sugar-Bakers or *Sugar-Refiners*

PAPER.

THESE Gentlemen have Petition'd the Houſe of Commons; and have delivered a Printed Paper, Intitled, *The Caſe of the Refiners of Sugar in England.* By which they mean, the Sugar-Bakers of *London* and *Briſtol*: there being few of them elſewhere in *England.* 'Tis the Sugar Bakers of *London* and *Briſtol* that make all this Noiſe. But they thought there was great weight in thoſe words, *in England.* As if the Engliſh Parliament did not take care of the whole Engliſh Nation: that is, of all the People *of England*, as well as of thoſe *in England.* And as if the Plantations were not *England* to all Intents.

They ſay in their Petition, that *their Manufacture in* England *is of antient ſtanding.* Whereas it is well known, that when our Plantations fell to making of Sugar, there were but four or five Refining houſes in *England.* And forty years before, there was hardly one. Alſo they ſay, *that they employ great numbers of People.* But for one Man that the Sugar-Bakers employ, the Plantations employ a hundred, even here in *England*: beſide the mighty Navigation. And yet theſe Men think to be favour'd, againſt the Plantations.

They ſay in their Paper, *That formerly they exported great Quantities of White Sugar into the Parts beyond Sea: which Trade, for about ten years paſt, hath been taken away by Forrainers.* But what new thing happen'd about ten years ago, that brought our Sugar-Bakers into theſe ill Circumſtances? Truly it was the Additional Duties upon Sugar, impoſed by King *James*: a thing of their own contriving, and promoting, and procuring. 'Twas theſe Additional Duties, that on the one hand ruined the Plantations, (more particularly *Barbadoes*; the moſt flouriſhing of all the reſt); and on the other hand diſabled our Refiners from exporting their white Sugars.

Here two things may be demanded: Firſt, what Inducement ſhould the Refiners have, to drive on a Deſign ſo pernicious, to ruin the Plantations? Secondly, How the Additional Duties did hinder the exporting their own White Sugars?

In anſwer to the Firſt, 'Tis plain they were led by their Intereſt, and a violent purſuit of their own Profit and Advantage. They had a great deſire to engroſs the whole Trade to themſelves, of making Brown Sugars white, and fit for Uſe. That ſo, being ſole Buyers of the Browns, and ſole Sellers of the Whites, they might buy and ſell at their own Prices. But they ſaw this could not be, as long as white Sugars were ſuffer'd to come from the Plantations. And therefore they muſt endeavour to ſhut them out. Not by direct Prohibitions, (for that had been too groſs and too foul); but by high Duties: that is, higher in proportion upon the Whites, than upon the Browns. Which they thought with good reaſon would keep out the Whites. And this was their way before, in the Sugar-Duties of King *Charles* the Second:

which theſe Men contrived likewiſe. They made the Duty upon the Whites more than treble to the Browns, when as their Price is ſeldom double. And becauſe King *Charles* his Duties did not ſufficiently keep out the Plantation White-Sugars, they got that heavy Addition of King *James:* by the help of Sir *D. N.* their great Friend, to whom ('tis preſum'd) they were not ungrateful.

As to the ſecond Queſtion, How thoſe Additional Duties came to hinder the Refiners Exportations, it may have this general Anſwer. That as doubling the Exciſe lately (for one year) upon Beer and Ale, did cauſe ſuch diſorder and damage in that Affair, as perhaps will never be repaired. ſo the doubling the Duties upon Sugar for eight years, (and indeed they were more than doubled), did utterly rout and *confound* the whole Sugar Trade. To the infinite prejudice both of particular Perſons, and of the Kingdom in general. And therefore it is no wonder, if even the Sugar-Bakers, who had procured theſe Duties, did ſuffer by them in ſome reſpects. It being alſo found, that Projects extremely violent and griping, do often meet with diſappointments, and contrary Effects.

But the particular Anſwer is this. King *Charles*'s Duties were and are, eighteen pence *per* Hundred upon brown Sugar, and five ſhillings upon white, (to ſay nothing now of Refined); with a Draw-back of half upon Exportation. King *James*'s Addition was, upon the Brown, ſeven groats; and upon the White, ſeven ſhillings: but with a Draw-back of the whole. Which great new Draw-backs gave ſuch advantage to the forrain Refiners, that Ours were beaten out of the Trade of Exporting white Sugars. And ſo by graſping at a Monopoly of the Home Trade, they loſt the Forrain. But thoſe Additional Duties being now determined, and the great Draw backs with them; nothing ſeems to hinder, but that the Sugar-Bakers of *London* and *Briſtol* may recover their forrain Trade. They being now in the ſame Condition, that they were before thoſe Duties were impoſed. Only they muſt have patience till the Plantations be healed of thoſe wounds which the Sugar-Bakers gave them by the Additional Duties, and Sugar becomes plentiful again.

But to go on with their Caſe or Paper; They in it ſet down the ſeveral Duties that are now on Sugar. White Sugar, they tell us, pays inwards five ſhilllings a Hundred, and Brown or *Muſcovado* pays one ſhilling ſix pence. But they make no mention of Refined, or Loaf-Sugar: which (by their ſpecial Care and Contrivance) pays ſixteen ſhillings *per* Hundred. By which terrible Duty theſe Men have got a Monopoly of that ſort of Sugar. None of it is here ſold but Theirs: and that of *Barbados* is quite ſhut out. Tho the *Barbados* Refin'd is the beſt in the World, and Theirs the worſt: and tho that of *Barbados*, if it were permitted to come, would be afforded much cheaper. So that then we might cleerly underſell both *Hamburgers* and *Hollanders*. But otherwiſe the *French* (whenever they have a Peace) will underſell us all: they refining upon the Place. They'll make us leave our Fooling, and go the neareſt way to work.

Then in their Paper they *Note*; That three Hundred weight of *Muſcovado* when Refined, makes one Hundred of White. And ſo it does, and a good deal more: beſide the Scum, Syrups, Baſtards, and other Offal: which are conſiderable.

And now they come to their Diſcouragements: whereof the firſt and principal is this. *That the Engliſh Refiners paying the Duties on* Muſcovado *inwards, and the half Duty being drawn back on Exportation; the Forrainers pay but the other Half: ſo that the Engliſh Refiners white Sugar ſtands them in more than the Forrainers.* Here it is confeſs'd, that there is that Draw-back on Exportation. But the queſtion is, whether the Refiners pay thoſe Duties inwards. And this is the Hinge on which their Caſe turns. If it be true, that thoſe Duties are paid by the Refiners; they are under a great Diſcouragement, and ought to be relieved. Bnt if this be a notorious Falſhood, (as it is moſt notorious); they ſhould ſuppreſs their Caſe for ſhame, and withdraw their Petition for ſhame: Begging pardon alſo of that Honourable Houſe, whom they have endeavour'd to abuſe ſo groſly. Nothing is more notorious, than that the Importer (whether he be a Planter or Merchant) pays thoſe Duties. And if

he

he be a Merchant, he had paid ſo much leſs for his Sugars upon that account, when he bought them in the Plantations. So that every way, the people of the Plantations bear the burden. But it may ſafely be affirm'd, that all the Sugar-bakers of *London* and *Briſtol*, put together, never paid one Farthing Cuſtom for Sugars imported. And whereas theſe Men would inſinuate, that Forrainers have the advantage of the Drawback, it is no ſuch Matter; For the Drawback is for the Eaſe and Benefit of them that paid the Duties: who are the Engliſh Importers. And if theſe ſell their Sugar to Exporters, whether Forrainers or Engliſh; they do not give away their Right to the Drawback; but they ſell it, by having the better price for their Sugar.

The Second Diſcouragement is, the *high Duty upon Spirits drawn from Moloſſes.* And this is a real Diſcouragement. But the Duty was laid in favour of Corn-Brandy. If the People in and of *England* might do their beſt, and had encouragement; they would make ſuch Brandy, and afford it ſo cheap, as to beat the French Brandy out of the World. and ſo we ſhould wreſt from them one of their beſt Trades. But when we would Rival it with Forrainers, we ſhould not (with all humility be it ſpoken) favour ſome of our people by hindering others, but leave and encourage all men to do their beſt.

The Remedies they propoſe are three.

I. *That they may draw back* 2s. 6d. per *Hundred, on the Exportation of their White Sugars.* And truly it is but reaſonable, that they ſhould draw back half the Duties they have paid. Since therefore they have paid Nothing, let them draw back half that Nothing. But in good earneſt, for them to expect a Draw-back when they have paid no Duties; is a ſtrange piece of Confidence, to give it no worſe a word. They do in effect deſire a Law, that the King ſhould give them half a Crown for every Hundred of White Sugar they export.

II. *That a Duty of five ſhillings a Hundred* (no leſs than that of white Sugar) *may be laid on Plantation Moloſſes.* Theſe Sugar-bakers cannot leave off their Griping Monopolizing humour. And they will play at ſmall game, rather then ſit out: as one ſaid of the Devil, when he enter'd the herd of Swine. Since they cannot engroſs the Sugar Trade to their mind, they will try what they can do at Moloſſes. But they ſay, *that this Duty will much help their Moloſſes.* Thats very true. And ſo a good Duty upon the Proviſions of *Eſſex* that come to *London* Market, would be a great help to the Proviſions of *Middleſex.* If all other Moloſſes were kept out, they might ſell theirs at their own Price: They would then have a Monopoly of Moloſſes. Further they ſay, *that this Duty will not hurt the Plantations.* But the People of the Plantations know, that it will hurt them. Then they Note, *that the Dutch prohibit the importation of Forrain Moloſſes.* But that which comes from their own Plantations, they do not account forrain.

III. *That a Duty of eighteen pence* per *Hundred be added to the Duty on Clay'd Sugar under the degree of White.* Here they are at Monopolies agen. As *Cacus* of old breath'd Fire, ſo theſe Men breath Monopolies. Their Monopoly upon Refined Sugars has been compleat theſe many years: and upon the beſt Whites pretty well. And it grieves their hearts that the Courſe Whites ſhould eſcape them. But a little Addition of Duty would bring that ſort likewiſe into their Net; which they are now endeavouring to accompliſh. But how doth this, or the other Project upon Moloſſes, remedy the Evil complain'd of: which is, that their Trade of white Sugars exported, is loſt to Forrainers? Truly not at all: it only advances their Home Monopoly. And it ſeems theſe Men are more intent upon that, than upon recovering their Forrain Trade.

As for the Courſe Whites before ſpoken of, they are made by the People of the Plantations, and likewiſe by the Sugar-bakers. The Planters work by Spring water, ſoaking gently (from fine Clay) through the Sugar, and carrying the Droſs and Moloſſes

loſſes away with it. The Sugarbakers work by Fire, tormenting their Sugar in Stoves and Ovens: whence they have the name of Sugar-bakers. But whereas the Planter gives his Sugar a colour, by purging it; the Sugar-baker give His a colour, without purging it: and leaves it as foul as it was before: as any one may ſee, that puts ſome of it into a Glaſs of Water. And this filthy Balderdaſh they impoſe upon unskilful people. which alſo to put off the better, they would now have the Clay'd Sugar (which is ſo clean and wholeſome) kept out by high Duties.

But 'tis humbly hoped that a Project ſo unreaſonable will never be ſuffer'd to take effect. 'Tis hoped likewiſe, that the Plantation Refined will be permitted to come in, paying the Duties of other Whites. The Sugar-bakers got it ſhut out by a high Duty, becauſe it might be afforded cheaper then theirs, and is likewiſe much better. It goes almoſt twice as far, ſweetens almoſt twice as much, and its Reliſh is much more delicious. It hath therefore been a ſtrange Self-denyal in the People of *England*, that when a Commodity that is ſo uſeful, and ſo great a means of good living, might (from their own people) be had cheap and good, they would have it bad and dear. And all to ſet up the Sugar bakers of *London* and *Briſtol*.

As matters now ſtand, the coming of Refined Sugar from the Plantations ſeems highly needful; in regard it is ſo good and ſo ſure an Expedient for reſtoring that Trade, which the Sugar-bakers have loſt to the Nation. Let the Sugar-bakers, if they can, ſhew ſome other Expedient: ſo it be not that which they have offer'd already, that themſelves ſhould have a Drawback when they have paid no Duty. for thar is abominable. In the mean time a Propoſal will be made, which will give them a good Title to a Drawback. The Propoſal in ſhort is this.

I. That the preſent Duty on Brown Sugar, which is eighteen pence a Hundred with a Drawback of the half, be made twelve pence a hundred without a Drawback.

II. That the Duty upon White Sugar (whether in Loaf or Powder) being five ſhillings, may be equally divided between the Planter and Sugar-baker. To be paid by the Planter (or the Importer which is all one) at the Importation, and by the Sugar baker at the Making it white. With a Drawback of four fifths on Exportation. So that each pays half a Crown *per* hundred for Duty, and has a Drawback of two ſhillings.

Note, that the Sugar-bakers ſhare of the Duty will be very eaſily Collected: like the Duty on Salt.

By this means our Trade of Exporting White Sugars will be reſtored and preſerved, the King will be a Gainer, the Plantations no Loſers, and the Sugar bakers will have no juſt Cauſe to complain. And theſe things are offer'd to Conſideration, with all humility.

FINIS.

London, Printed and are to be Sold by *E. Whitlock.* 1695.

A

REPLY

To a Paper Entituled

An Anſwer to the Sugar-Refiners Paper.

IT has been too common with thoſe who value not what they ſay, whether true or falſe, ſo it anſwers their end, to ſupply the want of Argument with falſe Accuſations and opprobrious Terms, and to endeavour to ſtifle the Truth with Confuſion and Incoherency: Yet tho' the Vulgar may be ſo miſled, I wonder the Anſwerer ſhould think to impoſe upon the Wiſdom of Parliament by ſuch trifling: But if he have not a Talent to do otherwiſe, that cannot be helpt, only then he ſhould forbear coming out in Print.

Several things he affirms which are falſe in Fact, As that the Sugar-Refiners contriv'd and procur'd the laying on the New Duty on Sugar in King *James*'s Reign, that the *Barbadoes* White Sugar is cleaner and better purg'd than our refin'd Sugar, and that one Pound of the former ſweetens almoſt twice as much as the latter, &c. and all along his Arguments are of no Weight, or conclude againſt himſelf, as I ſhall briefly ſhow.

He ſays, 'Tis the Sugar-Bakers of *London* and *Briſtol* that make all this noiſe, but it is known there are Sugar-houſes in *Newcaſtle*, *York*, *Cheſter*, *Leverpool*, *Worceſter*, *Plimouth*, *Exeter*, &c. and would be many more every where if the Manufacture were encourag'd, as it is highly the Intereſt of *England* ſo to do. But it is true, *London* and *Briſtol* are the chief Ports for Exportation of that as well as other Commodities, but when *Exeter* Petitions for the Improvement of their Woolen Manufacture, or *Norwich* for their Stuffs, or *Sudbury* for their Sayes, or the Weavers in *London* for their Silks, according to this Gentleman's Argument, 'tis not the general Intereſt of *England*; and he would think it enough to overthrow their Petitions, by ſaying 'tis *Exeter* makes all this Noiſe, or *Norwich*, or *Sudbury*, or *London* that makes all this Noiſe. Indeed if Noiſe only would anſwer Reaſon, this Gentleman may anſwer any thing, for it is little elſe he uſes: He ſeems angry that we ſay our Manufacture is of antient ſtanding, and yet in anſwer ſays nothing but to prove that it is ſo, and ſays himſelf that there were Refining-Houſes in *England* before our Plantations fell to making of Sugar. That the Sugar Refiners here employ great numbers of People he does not deny, but ſays, that for one Man they employ, the Plantations employ an hundred, and would here and in other places inſinuate that what we ſeek is againſt the Intereſt of the Plantations, which is the blind by which ſome few concerned in a ſmall part only of one of the Plantations would miſlead ſuch as take things upon their word, without examining and conſidering the matter; for the Sugar-Plantations are *Jamaica*, *Nevis*, *Antego*, *Monſeratt*, and St. *Chriſtophers* as well as *Barbadoes*; and of *Barbadoes* it ſelf the greateſt part do not clay their Sugars, and what is the Intereſt of the Sugar-Refiners here, is plainly the intereſt of all the Sugar-Plantations, unleſs

that ſmall part of *Barbadoes* which clay their Sugars, for the more the Refiners here are encouraged, the greater price and briſker Market will the Muſcovado Sugar always find here, and it is entirely the Intereſt of *England* to have the Product of their Plantations manufactured here at home by our own People, who thereby encreaſe the Strength and Wealth of *England*, eating and wearing the product of their own Country, rather than by Negroes abroad, the great Number whereof in the Plantations do rather hazard than add to their ſafety.

The next thing he attacques is, what is ſaid in the Sugar-Refiners Paper, *That formerly they exported great quantities of White Sugars, which has for ten Years paſt been taken away by Forreigners.* This he does not deny, and in Anſwer declares, That the Sugar-Refiners contrived, promoted and procured the High Duty upon Sugar in K. *James*'s Reign, which is utterly falſe in fact; but ſome People think that the confident affirmation of a thing will paſs for proof: And it is abſurd to imagine, that they ſhould contrive and promote a thing ſo prejudicial to themſelves, which did immediately deſtroy part of their own Manufactury, by taking away their Forreign Trade. So that all his Reflections from that Head muſt fall upon himſelf.

He ſays Loaf-Sugar from the Plantations pays 16 *s. per* C. wt. and by that means the Sugar-Refiners have got a Monopoly of that ſort of Sugar; and ſo by thruſting in there, and in other parts of his Paper the odious and frightful term *Monopoly*, (tho' he ſeems not to underſtand what it means) he thinks he has given them their Deaths-wound. I thought Monopoly had properly ſignified the buying, or ſelling, or making any Commodity by one Man, or one ſtock only; but by this Gentleman's quaint way of arguing, what is done in *England* only is a Monopoly, tho' all the People in *England* are or may be concerned ſeparately and apart therein, which is too groſs to take place. It is true, the Parliament impoſed 16 *s. per* C. wt. on Loaf-Sugar fom the Plantations, and no doubt therein conſider'd, that it was moſt beneficial to *England* to manufacture their own Commodities in *England*, by their own People, who add to their own ſtrength, and ſpend their own Product, as before has been ſaid.

And now the Anſwerer quits all Modeſty, when he affirms ſo notorious a Falſity, that the *Barbadoes* Refin'd Sugar is the beſt in the World, and the *Engliſh* refin'd Sugar the worſt in the World. And elſewhere he ſays, that the White Sugars made in the Plantations are cleaner, they working by Clay and Water, and we by Fire. And again, That the Plantation White Sugar goes almoſt twice as far, ſweetens almoſt twice as much, and its reliſh is much more delicious.

As to the difference between our Refining and their Claying, it is true, theirs is done with Clay and Water, and ours is clarify'd with Eggs, and afterwards ſtrain'd thro' Broad cloth, and ſo refin'd, as he ſays, with Fire, which he will not allow to Purge as well as their Clay and Lime; wherein he ſhews himſelf as bad a Philoſopher as his arguing ſhows him a Logician, or indeed a Man of common ſenſe; for all the World knows, that nothing purifies or refines ſo well as Fire, and the goodneſs and cleanneſs of our Refin'd Sugar is ſeen by its conſtant uſe in Thea, which would ſooneſt ſhow its Impurity, if any were. And inſtead of being weaker and fowler than *Barbadoes* White Sugar, it is quite the contrary, as is undeniably evinc'd by the Confectioners, and all others who require the ſtrongeſt and cleaneſt Sugar for their Candying and other uſes, and for that Reaſon they prefer and uſe our Refin'd Sugar before the *Barbadoes* White Sugar. It is true, we muſt make and ſell a courſer ſort of Sugar to them that deſire it, and it cannot be expected that a low price ſhould purchaſe Sugar of the ſame goodneſs as a higher price.

What

What he affirms of the *French*'s refining their Sugar in their Plantations, is o the ſame Complexion with his other Affirmations, that is, not true, for they bring home their Sugars brown, and refine it at home, as the *Dutch* do: Perhaps they may have a Refining-Houſe or two in their Iſlands, as we have at *Nevis*, to refine Sugar to ſerve the uſe of thoſe Iſlands, knowing it to be better, and more wholſome, and clean, when refin'd by Fire, than what is only Clay'd, tho' this Gentleman ſeems ignorant of it: And the *French* and *Dutch* underſtand their own Intereſt ſo well, as to keep on in that courſe.

The Anſwerer ſays, 3 C. wt. of Muſcovado, when refin'd, makes 1 C. wt. of White, and a good deal more; he ſhould have told what he means by a good deal more: It may be he may call a pound or two a good deal more, which agrees well enough with his arguing in other things.

And now he comes to the point, on which, as he ſays, the Hinge of the Caſe turns, and that is, that the *Engliſh* Refiners paying the Duty on Muſcovado inwards, and the half Duty being drawn back on Exportation, the Forreigners pay but the other half, ſo that the *Engliſh* Refiners White Sugar ſtands them in more than the Forreigners. This the Anſwerer denies in Words, but proves it in his own Arguments; for if, as he ſays, the Forreigner pays the dearer for the Sugar he buys 9 *d. per* C. wt. in lieu of ſo much he draws back on Exportation, does not the *Engliſh* Refiner by the ſame reaſon pay 1 *s.* 6 *d. per* C. wt. the dearer for the Sugar he buys, becauſe the Importer pays ſo much Duty at Importation. This is plain, the Forreigner pays for 1 C. wt. of Sugar 29 *s.* 3 *d.* and for the ſame C. wt. of Sugar the *Engliſh* Refiner pays 30 *s.* has not the Forreigner it then 9 *d.* cheaper than we? and in 3 C. wt. of brown Sugar, which goes to make 1 C. wt. of White, is not that 2 *s.* 3 *d.* differerence in 1 C. wt. of White, which the Forreigner has advantage in working up and refining our brown Sugar? and whether then the Exporter of Sugars refin'd in *England* ought not to draw back as much as if the ſame were exported brown? let any reaſonable Man judge: And this would be the intereſt of all the Plantations, and that part of *Barbadoes* which makes White are not at all concern'd in it, unleſs it be to their Profit; for what does it ſignifie to them (unleſs, as has been ſaid, to mend the Market for theirs) whether the brown Sugar be exported brown, or whether it be made white here, and then exported.

As to what the Anſwerer ſays about Moloſſes, it would be the intereſt of all the Plantations if none came hither from thence, their Sugar would yield the better price, and they have ways enough to diſpoſe of it by making Rum, and ſending it to *Virginia*, *Maryland*, *New-England*, *Carolina*, &c. whereas here is a very high Duty impos'd upon Spirits drawn from Moloſſes; and there can no reaſon be given, why Moloſſes ſhould come from thence any more than Rum, which is made of Moloſſes, and cannot be imported here.

The laying any New Duty upon Sugars, we never did, nor do deſire, but it was neceſſary in giving the Parliament an account of this matter to ſtate the Fact truly before them, and we have and ſhall prefer Truth, and the general intereſt of the Kingdom, before our own particular Advantage.

The true CAUSE of Holland and Hamburgh's

Supplying thoſe MARKETS with

REFINED SUGAR

Which *ENGLAND* formerly Furniſh'd:

WITH SOME

REMEDIES

Offer'd to bring it into the

Engliſh Hands again;

THE

REFINERS having, in their PAPER, made ſeveral falſe Aſſertions.

THE late high Impoſition on our own Sugars, hath weaken'd the Engliſh Plantations: And the Dutch and French and their Sugar Plantations hath increaſed ever ſince: And this gave all Foreigners great opportunities of Refining, which we may thank the Refiners for, who Projected that ruinous Impoſt, and are ſtill deviſing more Duties to be laid on our Plantation-Moloſſes, and our courſe clayed Sugars, which will yet be a further Scourge on them, as well as effectually compleat the ruin of the Engliſh drooping Plantations,) which are the beſt Jewels that belong to *England*,) as was evidently felt both at home and abroad, by the dreadful Effects of the ſaid late Impoſition.

Two Hundred and fifty Pound of *Muſcovado* Sugar will make One Hundred of Refined Sugar, the Offal, *viz.* Scum, Syrup, Pannels, Baſtards, which is a courſe ſort of Sugar, *&c.* is always one fifth more, both in Bulk and Value, which is Fifty: The Benefit of this is both to the Refiner in *England*, and in the Plantations abroad. For in *Barbadoes*, and here, the Price of Refined hath generally been three times the Price of *Muſcovado*, except ſince the late Impoſt, and would be ſo again, were the Sugar Plantations encouraged as they ought, and no more Impoſts or Duties laid on any of their Commodities than what already are. 100. 50.

Now ſince here is leſſened in Bulk or Weight One Hundred out of every Two Hundred and Fifty, ſome Men perhaps may ſay, That in caſe the Plantations be permitted, by an eaſie Duty upon Loaf-Sugar, Imported from the Plantations, that ſo much Navigation will be in proportion loſt. I anſwer,

it

it will not, but on the contrary will Augment Navigation: For a Loaf of Refined Sugar, Powder'd and Ramm'd in Cask, will go into very little more than half the room it takes up in being ſent in Loaf.

And were the Plantations permitted to ſend home their Refined Sugar in Loaf, and not Powder'd, they paying but 5 *s. per.* Hundred Weight, as they do for powder'd Whites, for what ſhall be Imported, and the 3 *d. per l.* taken off with a draw-back of 2 *s.* 6 *d. per* Hundred for what ſhall be Exported; the Plantations would in all probability, in a very few Years, make double the Quantity of Sugars which they now do, and thereby be able to ſell them at leſs than half what they now are ſold at; and get more by their Sugars, at ſuch, or lower Prizes, than they now do at the Exceſſive Rates they are run up to, which we may in great part thank the Refiners for. I hope this being proved, which I'm ready to do, is a plain Demonſtration that Navigation will be Augmented thereby: And that in a few Years we may very much under-ſell all *Hamburg*, *Holland*, and other Foreign Refiners, which would be one of the greateſt Advantages *England* hath, and render that Commodity as Uſeful and Advantagious to us as ſo many Mines of Silver, by bringing into the Kingdom vaſt Sums of Money, by our Sugars being Exported, as formerly it did, before the late Ruinous Impoſition: But laying on any thing more on any ſort of Sugars, or Moloſſes made in the Plantations, will have dangerous Conſequences, whatever the Refiners ſhall pretend, who are a ſort of Upſtart People, of very little uſe to the Nation, in Compariſon with the Plantations; Three Pound of whoſe Refined Sugar will not ſweeten much more than Two Pound of Sugar Refined in *Barbadoes*, neither is it ſo Clean nor Wholſom as the *Barbadoes* Refined Sugar is.

The *French* Refine great Quantities abroad in their Plantations, which in time will undermine ours, if we are not permitted to do the like, and will have the ſame Effect upon the Refiners, and be very pernicious to the Intereſt of *England* in General.

It is too plain, that the *French* Sugar Plantations, ſince the late Impoſition, hath ſeemed to vie with ours, which Concerns us to be aware of.

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THE

CASE

OF THE

BRITISH Sugar-Colonies.

OUR Plantations muſt always be conſidered as deſerving Encouragement, in Proportion to the Advantage *Great Britain* receives from them.

THAT our Sugar-Plantations have proved the moſt beneficial to us muſt be generally allowed, not only by furniſhing us with Sugar, and other Commodities, which we did formerly, and muſt otherwiſe, buy of other Nations with ready Money; but by enabling us to ſupply Foreign Markets with the Surplus of the Plantation Product not conſumed at Home.

THE greateſt Part of the Produce of theſe Commodities ſold here and abroad, is returned to the Sugar-Plantations in our Woollen and other Manufactures, Wearing Apparel, Houſhold-Goods, and Plantation-Utenſils, ready made and wrought up in this Kingdom.

THEY contribute alſo to the great Conſumption of *Britiſh* Manufactures and Malt-Spirits, which are ſent to *Guinea* to purchaſe Negroes for the Uſe of the Plantations.

IN the Courſe of this Trade, Multitudes of *Britiſh* Seamen are maintained, and a great Number of Ships *Britiſh built* are employed; the Profit of which centers all in *Great Britain*.

AND as the Intereſt of the Sugar-Colonies is cloſely united with that of *Great Britain*, they muſt always be *dependant* on it, and be ſupplied from hence, becauſe they have *no Trade or Manufactures* which can *interfere* with thoſe of *Great Britain*.

AS this is ſo beneficial a Branch of Trade to *Great Britain*, it ſeems but reaſonable that it ſhould meet with all due Encouragement.

AT leaſt that nothing ſhould be done to it's Prejudice, or to the Encouragement of the *French* (our greateſt Rivals in the Sugar Trade) to deſtroy ſo valuable a Part of our Commerce.

BUT

BUT that this has been ſo for many Years paſt can never be queſtioned or denied. For the People of *New-England*, and other Parts of the Continent, have ſupplied the *French* Sugar-Colonies with Proviſions, and Neceſſaries of all kinds for their Plantations, and have taken from them Sugars, and great Quantities of Rum, which the *French* never made before (as interfering with *French* Brandy) till they found a Vent for it by this Trade.

AND they take off likewiſe great Quantities of the *French* Moloſſes, which was uſeleſs to them before, for the ſame Reaſon, that the diſtilling it would hinder the Conſumption of *Brandy*.

AND ſuch *French* Rum and Moloſſes is often bought by them with Money received in our Sugar-Colonies, from their Cargoes ſold there.

THE Miſchiefs from this Commerce are very many and evident, and will encreaſe more and more every Year, if ſome effectual Stop be not put to it.

BY this means the *French* have encreaſed their Plantations, and made new Settlements, and chiefly ſupply *Hamburgh*, *Holland*, *Spain*, the *Levant*, and the *Mediterranean*, with Sugars, which were formerly ſent thither by us.

THE *Britiſh* Sugar-Colonies can't find the Market for their Sugars abroad, which they did formerly, but chiefly depend upon our own Conſumption.

MANY of the Inhabitants and Planters are ſo reduced, that they are removing to the Northern Colonies; which, in Caſe of a War with *France*, in all Probability, will occaſion the entire Loſs of the Sugar Iſlands; there being in *Martinico* alone upwards of Nine Thouſand well-diſciplin'd Men.

THE *Britiſh* Sugar-Iſlands are conſtantly drained of their current Monies by the Traders from the Northern Colonies, who carry it away to purchaſe Sugar, Rum, and Moloſſes, from the *French* Plantations.

THAT by this Intercourſe, they have an Opportunity of taking off great Quantities of Foreign *European* Manufactures, and *India* Goods, in a Clandeſtine Manner, from the *French* and *Dutch*.

AND what is worthy of great Conſideration, is, that tho' the Northern Colonies may be Gainers upon the whole by this Trade; yet the *French* Sugar-Colonies receive much more Advantage thereby than the Northern Colonies do, Rum and Moloſſes being clear Profit to the *French*; and the Cattle and Lumber they receive, abſolutely neceſſary for them, and which they could not have from any other Place. Nor do the Northern Colonies take from hence more of the *Britiſh* Manufactures than they formerly did; nor bring a Profit to *Great Britain from this Trade*, any ways in Proportion to counterbalance the incredible Damage *Great Britain* muſt ſuffer from the Miſchief the Sugar-Colonies receive by it; The Ruin of which muſt immediately affect *Great Britain* in the higheſt Degree.

BESIDES the great Benefit the *French* Colonies receive from this Trade, which of itſelf alone muſt ſoon deſtroy the *Britiſh* Sugar-Colonies, there are other Cauſes which will contribute to make our Sugar-Colonies decline, and enable the *French* to ſupply foreign Markets with Sugar.

THE *French* Sugar-Colonies receive the greateſt Encouragement from their Mother-Country, and their Duties are leſs than ours.

WHEREAS the *Britiſh* Sugar-Colonies pay in the Plantations a Duty of Four and a half *per Cent.* for their Sugars before they can ſhip them to *Great Britain*, which is never drawn back on Exportation, no more than the Exciſe on Rum, which diſables them from ſupplying *Ireland* with it: And if their Sugars are carried to the Northern Colonies they muſt pay the Plantation Duty of Eighteen Pence *per Cent.* for their *Muſcavado* Sugars, and Five Shillings *per Cent.* for their white Sugar over and above the Four and a half *per Cent.* Duty.

UPON the whole; If this Trade to the Foreign Sugar Colonies be not ſpeedily and effectually prevented, the *Britiſh* Sugar-Colonies will be in Danger of being ruined. The Conſequence of which to *Great Britain* will be, that ſhe muſt loſe the Export of all the *Britiſh* Manufactures now taken off by the Sugar-Colonies, and the whole Benefit ariſing from the Importation of their Product.

OUR Navigation and Seamen muſt neceſſarily fall off and diminiſh.

THE *African* Trade, as chiefly depending on the Sugar-Colonies, muſt decay.

AND our Sugar Works, and other Plantation Stocks and Utenſils, will be of no Uſe, and thereby ſo much Wealth will be actually ſunk and loſt to this Nation.

THE CASE OF THE *British* Sugar-Colonie

MVSEVM BRITAN NICVM